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LXX. EUROPEAN COMMERCE, *showing new and secure Channels of Trade with the Continent of Europe, &c.* By J. JEPSON ODDY.  
*Concluded from Page 512.*

WE shall now conclude our remarks on this interesting work, the remainder of which is occupied with a brief analysis of our foreign commerce; and with demonstrating the necessity of calling forth our internal resources, as the only means of obviating those fluctuations to which it must ever be liable, so long as Europe continues in its present unsettled state, and as the only permanent source of our national importance and prosperity.

The SEVENTH and LAST BOOK, whose object we have just mentioned, is divided into twelve chapters: we shall, on entering a little at large into a view of their contents, give those of each in its place. The first chapter contains a few preliminary considerations relative to the commerce of England, with the north of Europe, the which might effectually be superseded by a judicious encouragement of our own productions, by promoting the trade with America, and with our American colonies. The author gives a brief view of our trade to the north, principally with regard to Russia, though not exclusive of the other northern nations. Russia, instead of encouraging the British merchant, always endeavours to obtain the highest

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prices, without once considering our ability to raise many of their articles at home, and to obtain the rest from our American colonies. Prussia treads closely in the steps of Colbert, under Louis XIV. which effectually compelled the commerce of France to seek refuge in England and other nations; whilst she merely retained such of her manufactures as supplied her own consumption; that is, by fettering her trade with high duties on the manufactured goods of other nations, and thus aiming to receive cash alone in return for her own. The Swedes follow the plan of high prices, which will soon cause our own forges to supersede theirs. From all this, the author attempts to estimate the probable consequence of continuing the present policy of each. The dearth of money in Russia, and the neighbouring nations, compared with England, is the sole chain by which our commerce is bound to the north: rupture it, and it will never more be reunited. "It is easy," says Mr. Oddy, "for Russia to say, England must have our tallow, hemp, and flax, iron, timber, &c. but we can do without her cutlery, her cloth, her toys, trinkets, and other articles of luxury and taste." This, however plausible at first sight it may seem, may thus be answered by England. "As to the manufactures we send to the north of Europe, we send more to America in a month, than we do there in a year: we can produce hemp, flax, and

iron enough at home, and in our own plantations in America. As for the other articles of tallow, timber, &c. we can have timber from our North American possession, and give goods in return; oil from our fisheries, and our own produce will supply the place of tallow; so that we can keep some millions of ready money in our pockets by the change." The author's reasoning throughout the chapter, is deserving of the most serious attention, both by the English, and the northern nations: much knowledge of human nature is every where apparent, and on the whole it is highly interesting, particularly to the junior merchant.

The *second chapter* contains a general view of the trade, navigation, manufactures, and finances of Great Britain and Ireland; and though the matter cannot, in general, be said to be new, yet it is well connected, and exhibited in such a manner, as to give a rapid sketch of the commercial exertions of this country. The author has commonly given such a lucid arrangement of his official documents, as to render the contemplation of them pleasing, rather than tiresome or insipid. His remarks on the relative state of the three kingdoms are judicious and correct: he is anxious for the improvement of Ireland, and we hope his solicitude will ere long be rendered unnecessary by judicious encouragement and regulations. In trade, she can never rival England; but in articles of her own produce, her physical superiority is such, that she cannot only rival, but greatly excel us: the whole chapter is worthy perusal.

The subject of the next *chapter*, besides a definition of the term, includes a general idea of the resources of the united kingdoms. After describing the sense in which he uses the word Resource, Mr. O.

proceeds with a few general considerations, on the best means of rendering the property of this country permanently valuable: for this purpose three circumstances are necessary to be attended to, which are, 1. To diminish the poor rates. 2. To grow corn at home sufficient for ourselves. 3. To encourage fisheries, growing of timber, flax, and hemp, so as to have naval stores, without depending on powers which may likely enough, at some time, become our enemies.

Allured by foreign conquests, by commerce, by enterprize and external resources, Great Britain has been culpably negligent in calling forth her internal energies. Mr. Oddy assigns many judicious reasons for this, but neglects one of no small agency in this important business. It is well known, that the human intellect, generally speaking, is not adapted to the consideration of an extensive range of ideas; and in bringing it home in the present instance, and to our own merchants, we shall no way libel them, by hinting, that their education commonly narrows, rather than extends the sphere of their intellectual faculties. Hence, routine, the never failing companion of ignorance and indolence, usurps the seat of mental vigour; and because one sends to Russia for certain linens, another will do the same, the possibility of obtaining them at home is the farthest from his thoughts. For want of that kind of encouragement given by buyers, it is, that our farmers rarely make more home-spun linen, than they can use in their own families. And whilst the scanty earnings obtained in consequence, by the spinning wheel, at which they must twirl a whole day to obtain six pence, absolutely drives the female poor into a state of idleness, rather than undergo the close confinement necessary to earn one

meal, and forego a little indispensable chit chat with their neighbours. With trifling encouragement, much good might be done, buyers would create sellers, these, weavers and spinners at the hand-wheel; thus would females turn many an idle hour to good account, their respective failings would be less censured, their families would reap the advantage, and the poor's rates would be materially lessened. The subject is worthy attention, as the labouring poor, are too often destitute of employment, and when employed in the manufactory of linens, their remuneration is far too trifling to stimulate their industry. Proper remuneration would also call forth the natural ingenuity and mental resources of the English, and speedily produce any pattern which might be thought desirable.

We have often thought, that a country squire, or other wealthy individual, might create a manufactory of British linen, in any country adapted to the growth of flax, and that he thus would benefit his country, whilst he amassed a princely fortune. The woollen manufactory at Leeds, we believe, is in great measure carried on, on this plan, the poor people spinning and weaving the cloth themselves, and afterwards offering their produce to the merchants who finish it. The linen manufactory would far excel that of wool, because the latter is a limited species of produce, whilst the other might be obtained to any extent: there would from this circumstance be much less danger of monopoly, and of the poor being injured. We are, however, forgetting Mr. Oddy, whose ideas will generally be found correct: in many instances extremely so, and seldom is he far in error. He gives some hints for the improvement of waste lands, which

savour a little too strongly of a certain board, whose quackery is only respectable in a sphere not much wider than that of the members composing it. Practical farmers know many things out of the author's contemplation, who by the way, is a much better merchant than agriculturist.

The *fourth chapter* is employed on considering the corn trade, concerning which there has been, and still exists, a great diversity of opinion in this country, and here we find him, in our idea, displaying greater knowledge of the subject in a commercial, than in a domestic point of view. The leading ideas are, that we should strenuously endeavour, to call our own resources into action, and by proper regulations ensure a crop, which even in case of deficiency, might not compel us to resort to foreign countries for subsistence. Another is, that we should endeavour to make this kingdom an entrepôt for foreign corn, so that in case of actual deficiency in our own crop, we might have a supply from our own granaries, without sending abroad; and a third is, that we interfere not too much with the corn trade, and spend not our money foolishly in bounties. These ideas are treated on with some ability, but in our opinion, the author is a little too local and too selfish in his remedies. He seems to omit any other considerations but such as must necessarily operate within a few years of the present time—he appears to forget, that the very necessities of our present case, the which he calculates on, in condemning bounties, will always exist, and consequently, that his opinions will fit all seasons: whereas, man, so much the creature of necessity, seldom extends his views beyond the present hour, should therefore, the scarcity which now rouses him

to import cease but for two or three years to exist; he will look for no more, and totally neglect providing superabundant supplies, till further necessity stimulates him to future exertions. Hence, it is highly demonstrative of a sound mind in a statesman, when he, guided by a knowledge of mankind, can pry far enough into futurity, to enact regulations which shall always be advantageous, when himself is no more. The chapter, however, contains a good deal of sound sense, though we think the author a little out in the present instance.

In his observations on fisheries, particularly our native ones, Mr. Oddy is much more happy; he displays the importance of encouraging them, and points out the general mode of doing it: these are, taking off the duty on salt, for fisheries, and finding boats and nets for fishermen, who might rent them under proper persons employed for the purpose, of superintending and letting them out. An enterprising laird, with a little ready money, might take this hint with advantage. Besides obtaining the means of subsistence, a due encouragement and extension of fishing would lower the price of oil, which would supersede the use of, and the necessity for, importing tallow, for which we send a great deal of money to the north: the fisheries also, would raise a host of hardy seamen, at all times our best safeguard. Some considerations on tallow, and on the means of superseding it in a great measure by oil, or by importing it at a quarter of the price from South America, if our government would turn their attention that way, close the *fifth chapter*, which on the whole is highly deserving attention.

The *sixth chapter* treats on wood, our domestic supplies of that

article, those to be obtained from British America, and concludes with a few observations on pitch and tar. The author as usual displays much commercial knowledge; and from his statements, we are glad to augur the probability of obtaining in future, a sufficient supply of those indispensable articles from our own plantations. Thus will the short-sighted policy of Russia compel the British merchant to keep his money in his own pocket, whilst he effectually subserves the interests of his country.

The *seventh chapter* treats on iron, as a resource inexhaustible, as affording us facilities for forwarding all our means of success, invaluable. Till lately, either from the routine of trade, or from some obstacles, which have happily been removed, our importation of this article was immense, and at an intolerable expense. However, the greediness, bad policy, or poverty of the northern merchants, some unwise regulations on the part of their rulers, and our own improvements in its manufactory, have had such an effect in calling forth our own energies, that instead of importing it, we are, besides supplying our increased consumption, able to export more than ever we imported, and in some instances even to undersell the nations of whom we previously had it. The best sorts of northern iron are at present alone received, it being found, that even their best samples can be equalled by employing charcoal, whilst coke will do for the more common and inferior ones. The toughness of the best Swedish is in many instances attained by our own countrymen, a proof that there is no inferiority in the ore. The author, as usual, displays a good deal of commercial knowledge.



It might be started as a question, whether trade in any place, ought to be fettered by regulations of any kind, other than such as may be deemed necessary for the purposes of taxation, or in other words, of contributing to the exigencies of the state. We are tempted to think, the checks and counter-checks of one nation over another, to be generally speaking, detrimental to the interests of each, and that all would reap the benefit of taking off restrictions of all kinds. If an exception can be advanced, it can only be with such articles, as wool in England, which cannot without detriment to other branches of rural economy, be raised in sufficient quantity to supply the whole world; or in other words, the produce could not reasonably be expected to keep pace with the demand.

The *eighth chapter* treats on hemp and flax; the possibility of raising both, even for exportation; and the advantages to be derived even from producing, in our own dominions, a sufficiency for our own consumption. This chapter, as usual, contains some judicious reflections, but the author has totally omitted mentioning the supply of hemp, which may, *pro tempore*, be obtained from Canada, or others of our North American colonies; neither does he seem to be aware, that all kinds of land are not well adapted to its culture: such objections as this often overturn many a brilliant hypothesis. He contends, however, that Ireland will grow it in any quantity.

It is curious to observe the means by which any given article of culture, or home manufacture, shall arise, decline, or fall. And the simple reason for any one of these appears to consist in a combination of the necessity of obtaining, with the facility of procuring it. On the part of the merchant, if the

former be not instant and pressing, the latter will absolutely prevent his seeking for whatever may require some exertion. And this neglect, on his part, will infallibly destroy the chance of obtaining it, the market being, as it were, destroyed and lost for want of a buyer. It might, however, be regained in two ways, either by the necessity becoming pressing, which will induce the merchant to seek it; or by the grower making a stir, and placing his produce under the notice of the merchant. We have known hemp to be produced in a certain district, where at present no more is raised than will supply the adjacent country with birdseed. The trade with Russia has taken off the demand for home production, and few of the present race of traders even suspect it to be attainable at home, in quantity sufficient to meet our home consumption. What are we to do then to obtain hemp of our own growth? The simple answer seems to be, bring the growers and the merchants acquainted with each other. Let a great noise be made respecting it, and let fashionable wool-catching, and fat-breeding, be left where it at present is; let us turn our attention towards it, because if we long neglect the culture, it will be lost to us, the former cultivators being about to quit this stage from age and infirmity. Popular notice ought to be excited, proper and early bounties to be held forth, and the people stimulated by every means in our power to set about growing it. Were short accounts of the land proper for raising it, and of the best mode of managing it in every stage from sowing to fitting for the market, published often in our country newspapers, which are commonly read by practical farmers, much good might be done. Flax bears such a price, is in such

demand, and is so much attended to in most flat countries, as to need no encouragement, so long as it shall continue in its present state: the farmers generally sowing it in every corner they think capable of yielding even tolerable produce, when the corn crop has been plentiful. Whereas, when the last has been deficient, flax is neglected, though it generally bears a price which will repay the farmer's exertions, and actually maintains a kind of balance, without which, in a district we have had long and numerous opportunities of observing with attention, we venture to assert, the farmer would often have been effectually prevented from paying his increased rent, increased taxes, and advanced wages. These considerations, sufficiently demonstrate the usefulness of, and necessity for, permanent regulations, to operate with evenness and uniformity, when the selfishness and shortsightedness of mankind would otherwise expose them to evils innumerable.

The *ninth chapter* is on the linen trade, its present state, and the means by which, instead of importing from Russia, we might probably undersell them. The cotton trade, though brought by us to a state of unrivalled perfection, can only remain with us so long as foreign nations shall choose, and as we are in a great measure masters at sea: whereas flax is a production of our own, we need no ships to fetch it, it may always be procured, whilst cotton must be imported. The chapter is highly deserving of serious attention.

The *tenth* is on the poor rates, and on the means of diminishing this grievous tax on the industry of the community. The author gives some good rules for this purpose, and is not injudicious in assigning reasons for the magnitude of the evil; but we think him not to have gone far enough in his enu-

meration, we will therefore venture to hint a few others which he has overlooked. The want of instruction, religious and useful, which is well known to be common at the present time, is undoubtedly the grand spring of the whole mischief. Religious, we mean genuine, not mere moral instruction, would effectually exterminate those habits of indolence and dissipation, which destroy the best prospects of the poor, whilst useful education would afford them the means of maintaining their families: thus the mind would shrink at being maintained by others, whilst the hands would be skilfully directed to acquire provision against all the ills of disease and old age. If, however, the various dissenting ministers, who now labour with such distinguished zeal and success, in reclaiming the people from vice, be suffered to proceed quietly, a circumstance concerning which there may be some reason to doubt, all our complaints against the poor laws, and their mal-administration, will become in a great measure unnecessary—the evil will quietly subside without any interference. Let the gospel of truth, in its truth, be thundered forth in our temples, let genuine christians alone mount our rostrums, and the manners of all ranks will be speedily reformed.—The apostles were fishermen, accompanied with the power of God.

The *eleventh chapter* treats on British shipping, and the means for increasing it, the principal of which is to strive at rendering it the emporium of the whole world, particularly the European part. The ports of the Baltic are necessarily closed half the year by frost, and the northern merchant, should we cease trading with him, would most probably trade with us, impelled by a kind of necessity induced by the progress of refinement. If England was found to be the only effectual bar against the foolish policy of

France—if they found their goods to be safe in no other place; moreover, if those nations, who, though under the sway of this policy, still wish to trade, when trading with all others but us, must render their commerce insecure; it may not be deemed an impossibility that we should become an entrepôt for the whole of Europe. The bonding, or free-port system, lately commenced, we apprehend to be the primary steps to such a circumstance, and which we hope will be followed up both by government and merchants. Mr. O. advances many other and more detailed arguments than these, for the adoption of a wise system of regulations, entirely calculated on this view: he proves, however, that our shipping is at present on the decline. The whole chapter ought to be perused by the friends of Old England.

In the *twelfth* and *last* chapter the author concludes with the importance of the subject to all, and in a brief recapitulation considers what is to be done, urges the necessity of its being done, and of doing it soon. The summary of the whole work given here, will be of great use in bringing its principal and leading heads under the reader's eye; and properly speaking, it ought to be read previously to entering the book; it ought to be read first and last, for preparing the reader's mind, and to refresh his memory.

Having now given an impartial, though as may naturally be supposed, an imperfect sketch of this valuable work—a sketch which is totally inadequate to display the whole of its contents, and which may be deemed much too extensive by our readers, though we could not resist the temptation to shorten it, we will conclude with a few remarks on its general character.

Books of all kinds, as we have often said, are useful for present reading, or for reference, and their

permanent value, if their materials are permanently valuable, will always depend on their being eminently useful in both these respects. In the present instance, the work is highly instructive, whilst as a book of reference it will always be desirable. The tables, though mercantile, are generally of such a nature as not to be altered by time; they are a series of facts, consequently, they will never change with varying circumstances. In his reflections on politics, or on particular subjects, the author shews much penetration—human nature forming the ground-work of his observations and conclusions, the results must always obtain, and always be the same. He seems to possess the most complete view that we have ever seen, of the plans to be pursued by this nation, for enabling us to maintain our dignity, and confound our foe; and if followed up, they would enable us to reduce the idleness of warfare to its proper estimation in the eyes of mankind. His ideas on commerce are generally just, and seldom is he far in error on other subjects; he is fertile in expedients, in foreseeing difficulties, in pointing out the means of obviating them, and in ranging all over the world, to forward his designs. Generally speaking, he omits little information, except such as alone can be obtained, by a long and local residence in every country on which he treats. Knowledge of this kind is not to be expected, nor indeed can it reasonably be looked for, from any single person;—it is sufficient to have pointed out great objects, and to leave others to fill up the details.

With respect to language, we might, where valuable information is so abundant, be deemed invidious, did we raise any material objection, the which, however, is in a great measure unnecessary, it is

often good, hardly ever bad, commonly of a superior cast. No arrangement is particularly necessary in a work of the kind, but even here, the author has been either judicious or fortunate, a complete view of our foreign trade, preceding his considerations on calling forth our domestic resources.

Were we disposed to find fault, it would principally consist in declaiming at the want of knowledge of all the minutiae and localities of foreign trade; the which, however, as we said above, are not to be expected, and possibly unnecessary in the present work: it is not absolutely perfect, nor will any other work ever reach perfection. The author is sometimes a little negligent in explaining terms, which though common to him, may be new to his countrymen: a man rarely appreciates the exact value of his own acquirements, as they are familiar to himself, and he is not aware, that his neighbours may be unacquainted with them. Were we called on to give a general character of the whole work, in a few words, we might safely say, that the plans it communicates, are judicious and indispensable to England; and the information which it affords, towards reducing those plans to practice, though they cannot be expected to enter into the minutiae of detail, is nevertheless sufficiently full and lucid to be of infinite service towards accomplishing them, and calling them into action. It is needless to add, that we earnestly recommend it to the notice of our countrymen. K.

LXXI. *A VOYAGE round the WORLD in the Years 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803, and 1804. By JOHN TURNBULL.*

[Continued from page 569.]

**A**FTER escaping the dangers of Ulitea, our voyagers were in no hurry to open a communication

with the Island of Bolabolla, where they next arrived; the invitations of the natives were therefore disregarded, and they proceeded for Marra, or Mobadie, the most leeward, and the smallest of the Society Isles, where they made a short stay, previous to sailing for the Sandwich Islands. They arrived at the latter, without material incident, except the terror excited in the minds of some Otaheitans, who were desirous of paying them a visit. The gods of these poor people are always of the destroying kind, hence dread and deprecation are the principal motives for their worship, and the sailors, taking advantage of this, told them that at a certain place (the equinoctial line) they would be harassed by spirits rising out of the water. Though undeceived with respect to the nature of these horrible visitants, they were compelled to undergo the operation of shaving, a privilege deemed too sacred by the sailors to be surrendered to any remonstrance. The first place at which our adventurers arrived was Whahoo, an island subject to the great chief of the Sandwich Isles, Tamahama. This man, with the assistance originally given him by Captain Vancouver, has actually been able to usurp the reins of government, and to drive the rightful chief and his adherents into the two islands of Attowaie and Onehow, and of which he was preparing to dispossess them; who with his people is rapidly advancing to a state of civilization, which will be deemed incredible in this country. Already has he created a marine force amounting to more than twenty vessels of from twenty-five to fifty tons burthen each, and to talk of trading to the coast of America. What person can behold without astonishment the great and rapid change which has taken place in the human mind within the last fifty years. At that time

these islands were unknown to England, and now we behold some of their inhabitants advancing so rapidly towards civilization, as not only to construct small vessels, but to talk of trusting themselves to the ocean. Their present chief is a man of enterprize, of knowledge, and, in his conduct to Europeans, of honour; he knows how to estimate the value of his goods, to drive a bargain, how to keep his word, and to fulfil his engagements. What would such crack-brained visionaries as Rousseau, and similar system-builders, say, could they now raise their heads? They would find that, even to become honest, it is necessary to become civilized; that, to become fit companions for rational beings, something more is requisite than savagism, perfectionism, or philosophism. We refer the trumpeters of the virtues of wild savages to Mr. Turnbull's account of those amiable beings of that class, who inhabit the islands of the Southern Ocean; — unless their senses be clean gone for ever, they will profit by the perusal.

After spending some time with Tamahama, of whom we have an interesting account, our voyagers proceeded for Attowaie, the residence of the amiable and rightful sovereign of the whole cluster. Abating his being a usurper, Tamahama is a character far superior to the generality of his brethren, whether in Europe, in the West Indies, or in his own neighbourhood; but he is greatly excelled in all the milder and amiable virtues by the king, whom he has thus exiled. The visit to the two islands of Attowaie and Onewhow, is of too interesting a nature to be passed over slightly; we therefore recommend it to the notice of our readers, as highly deserving their attention: and, if we adjoin to it the account

of the Sandwich Islands, the whole together will be found highly interesting. The heads of chapters *thirteen* and *fourteen*, containing this account, are: — Departure from Whahoo; arrival at Attowaie; visit from the king and the general of the island; Tamahama's determination to invade them; the friendly reception the voyagers met with; strong attachment of the exiled natives to their sovereign; desperate resolution in case of invasion; departure for Onewhow. The resolution, here alluded to as being desperate, is that of departing, in case of invasion, where Providence shall direct them, in a vessel which they were constructing, with the assistance of some Europeans attached to the fortunes of their chief. "They are wholly ignorant," says the author, "of the method of measuring a ship's course, or of the other necessary branches of navigation: a compass indeed they possess; and it is their intention in the first place to steer to the westward, in the hope of reaching some part of the coast of China; or, by keeping to the southward, to fall in with Otaheite, or some other of the Society Islands. Dreadful alternative! and in fact the case is desperate; for, they are well aware that resistance is in vain when once invaded. Perhaps in the whole catalogue of human misery, there is none more poignant, and more an object of pity to a generous mind, than that of a whole people thus becoming victims to the ambition of one man; and, to satisfy his lust of conquest, expelled from their native home. The most pathetic pieces of poetry in any language are the lamentations of the Spanish Moors on their expulsion from Spain: — the love of country is never understood till we consider it as lost or endangered."



"Even our sailors were much affected by the unhappy situation of this chief; for, he was by far the most intelligent native of these seas; and the ardent affection of his dependants and subjects was an ample testimony of his worth."

The ways of Providence, though often beyond the comprehension of mortals, are commonly justified by experience; and, though this amiable and enlightened chief may be driven away, and the usurper be permitted to possess his power in injustice, the result may be fortunate to some other place: the rightful chief may prove an acquisition to some other island in the neighbourhood, and introduce a degree of civilization, which, without such a concurrence of events, might have been long ere it had taken place. Even the present war on the continent may have been ordered in the divine councils, for the purpose of spreading the pure light of the gospel of peace, in countries where the name of Christ is comparatively unknown. The religious and peaceful Bavarians will probably be dispersed into other countries; and, though at present in many instances reduced to beggary, and to search for food in strange places, this very want of food may be the most effectual cause for emigration. They will, however, go forth with courage, if they reflect, that they are probably chosen as special messengers of their Master's love to benighted nations.

After experiencing much kindness and attention from this amiable monarch, and having been tolerably successful in obtaining salt and yams, our voyagers again proceeded to windward for Onehow, where they commenced trading with the natives, and were visited by Mr. Young, an American, who had settled under Tamahama, and attached himself to his fortunes. From this gentleman they

learnt several anecdotes relating to this enterprising chief, for which we are necessitated to refer our readers to the work. The heads of the *fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth, chapters*, are besides those just mentioned. — Enterprising spirit of the Sandwich Islanders; knowledge of our language; dexterity in diving; desertion of the Otaheitan natives; Tamahama's intention of opening a trade with China; hint to the Missionary Society; departure from the Sandwich Isles; passage to the southward; suspicious behaviour of the natives. — The hint to the Missionary Society is highly deserving of attention, and we hope will be followed up in the manner it deserves.

"The Missionary Society might perhaps find it answer their purposes, to turn their attention to that quarter, where, in my humble opinion, their benevolent efforts are more likely to prove successful than in Otaheite. The Otaheitan are indeed apparently softer in their manners than the northern islanders, but they are far behind the latter in their skill in the arts of life, and in their desire to acquire instruction, of every kind.

"Indeed, from certain events that took place on their being discovered, and particularly from the lamented fate of the great Cook, the Sandwich Islanders have generally been regarded as a race of savage barbarians. The truth, however, is, as has been already noticed, that many of the horrible practices of the more amiable Otaheitan, such as infant murder, &c. &c. are unknown amongst them; and the fatal accident which befel Cook is to this day deeply and generally deplored.

"Their eager and insatiable curiosity to observe and understand whatever is doing by the Europeans, unrestrained by any of those considerations of propriety which influence civilized nations, has had a tendency to draw on them the character of rude and uncultivated

men; but let it be considered, that this curiosity and ardour are not the effects of childish ignorance, but are produced by the most decided anxiety to learn whatever they see done: their seemingly-rude behaviour will then be forgiven.

"Should the Missionary Society adopt this hint, and make the experiment, I have no doubt that land might be easily procured as a grant or as a purchase." Tamahama is perfectly acquainted with the nature of a bargain, in the European sense of the term, and would conform rigidly to the conditions; differing in this, as well as in many other respects, from certain chiefs in Otaheite. The latter are constantly endeavouring to extort fresh remuneration from the missionaries there, whom they seem to regard only as strangers suffered to remain amongst them during their good pleasure.

"Missionaries in the Sandwich Islands would, moreover, experience every aid from the resident Europeans. This is another great advantage over their countrymen in Otaheite and Tongataboo. From the first arrival of the Otaheitan missionaries they were exposed to the greatest hardships and dangers from their own countrymen. Some desperadoes of Europe, at that time residing among the natives, instead of assisting these worthy men in their forlorn situation, they took a malicious pleasure in counteracting their efforts on all occasions, misrepresenting their views, and endeavouring to stir up the natives to outrage and violence. Young, Davis, and Stewart, would, on the contrary, be of infinite use in the Sandwich Islands; they would negotiate between the missionaries and the natives; and, being men of probity and character, in full possession of the confidence of Tamahama, their good offices could not fail of effect. I am persuaded, that a simple application would not fail to secure their most strenuous efforts.

"As a proof of the fidelity with which Tamahama fulfils his engagements, I may mention that of the cattle introduced by captain Van-

couver: the terms were said to be, that none were to be touched for a certain number of years. This condition has been rigidly preserved till that time expired; and these animals have, in consequence, become so wild, that none of the natives dare approach them. So that, ranging at their full liberty, they have destroyed the fences, trampled down the crops, and done much other damage. Though the inhabitants themselves have frequently suffered thus severely from their incursions, they have rigidly adhered to the condition of the original gift."

The remainder of this volume is particularly occupied with an account of the Otaheitans, and the inhabitants of one or two of the neighbouring islands;—of the loss of the *Margaret*, our voyager's vessel;—of a war begun by Pomarrie, which ended successfully;—of his sudden death in his canoe, on his passage to a ship, which took them to Port Jackson;—and a variety of occurrences which took place during the author's residence on this island, in consequence of the unfortunate loss of their only means of success. The general character of the natives is knavery, in forwarding which, they are more attentive to the result of the plans than to the means of promoting their success. Pomarrie, the firm friend of the missionaries, fleeced both them and his subjects of whatever he could obtain; and it was only through policy that he suffered them to remain in his dominions: their influence over their countrymen, the means of doing him service, or of gratifying his avarice, being the sole ties which cemented his attachment to their cause; and there is too much reason to fear, that his death might place these worthy men in a situation no way enviable. It would seem, that they

were not insensible of this circumstance: the parting words of Mr. Jefferson to Captain Turnbull being, to desire their friends at home not to be over solicitous concerning their safety! We trust that the Missionary Society will consider the case of these valuable men; and either recal them or transfer them to the Sandwich Islands, where there is a great prospect of their being of immediate service. The actual state of civilization to which their inhabitants have attained, their ingenuity, their industry, and the high sense of honor possessed by both the usurper and the amiable and rightful chief, together with the number of European settlers and their mulatto offspring, being a host of guarantees for their safety, and the happiest omens of speedy success. The high character given of these deserving men by the author, wherever opportunity offers, is highly honorable to themselves and to his feelings. In Otaheite, they are so many pearls cast before swine; but, even there, their amiable conduct is highly revered by the people; and, in the event of their chiefs deigning to imitate their example, much good may be the result of their patience and perseverance. It is however more than probable, that Otaheite will, ere long, submit to the dominion of Tamahama; and certainly, when compared with their present weak and feeble rulers, such a change would be highly desirable.—The work ought, certainly, to be in the hands of all concerned in the direction of the Missionary Society; and, though the production of a sailor, it will be found of great service, in enabling them to proceed with the success their efforts so richly deserve.

Having entered pretty much at large into the contents of the two

first volumes, and we hope enabled our readers to judge in a great measure concerning the value of the work, we shall be more concise in our account of the remaining one, which is occupied with a continuation of the account of the customs, manners, and present state, of the Otaheitan, and their island; together with the remaining events previously to sailing from Port Jackson for England in the *Calcutta*, whose voyage has already been communicated to the public by her first lieutenant, Tuckey.

The principal contents of the *thirtieth chapter*, the first of the third volume, are;—critical situation of affairs in Otaheite on the death of Pomarrie; zeal and conduct of the missionaries; and the stubbornness of the chiefs and royal family respecting the Christian doctrine. Those of the *thirty-first* are; mortality amongst the islanders; circumstances relative to the state of the missionaries; and the general contempt for old age manifested by the Otaheitans. This contempt is sufficiently demonstrated by something like a proverb current amongst themselves; if they disliked any thing offered to them by the author, they used to say, that it was as worthless as an old man. This chapter places the good conduct and industry of the missionaries in a favorable point of view. — The *thirty-second chapter* gives an account of particular customs amongst the Otaheitans; such as the exclusion of the women from eating with the men; their cleanliness and attention to dress; and concludes with an instance of the simplicity of the natives. The chapters from this to the *thirty-ninth* are occupied with a continuation of these customs, and the principal heads are; their superstition, employments, indolence, curiosity, food and

manner of cooking it; utility of the bread-fruit-tree, various methods of fishing, houses and furniture of the Otaheitan; their form of government; the influence of their priests. The miserable state of the island, diseases, causes of the gradual decrease of population, tricks played on the captain, general propensity to theft, reception of strangers, their general evenness of temper, generosity amongst themselves, little jealousy with regard to their women, stupidity of Otoo, the reigning chief, Otaheitan numerals, human sacrifices, high character of the missionaries.—The variety of details to be found in these chapters, of which these are an imperfect out-line, will be read with great interest by our countrymen, and will repay the attention bestowed on them by a series of information, both useful and interesting. The author's residence in Otaheite and at New South Wales has enabled him to communicate many details, which could only be obtained by such residence; and, though he might have presented us with many which he has undoubtedly omitted, yet we have no right to require them at his hands unless he choose to give them: those which he has given are numerous, and, generally speaking, interesting. The remainder of the volume is occupied with the passage from Otaheite to Norfolk Island; from thence to Port Jackson, and the author's residence at the latter place till he departed for his native land, which he regained after an absence of four years and a few days.

The hints respecting the general character of the work, which have fallen from us during our analysis, will in a great measure render any additional commendations unnecessary; we may however mention,

that its principal faults are bad language, and in many instances bad arrangement. Mr. Turnbull's habits may be a sufficient apology for both these defects: and, in spite of them, his general good sense will more than counterbalance their frequency, and cause them to be overlooked. At his outset he informs us, that he means not to present us with log-book details, and he strictly keeps his promise in view; he is generally interesting, seldom weak, and always entertaining.

It is one great fault of the generality of authors of the present day, that, unless they be really religious men, and writing expressly on religious subjects, their knowledge of divine things is so truly contemptible, and decidedly atheistical or deistical, twin brothers, as to excite few other sensations than disgust in the minds of those who know in what it consists. Happily, however, Mr. Turnbull has escaped the contagion; and, though a seaman, his notions of the character, situation, objects, and designs, of the missionaries, and of the means to be employed towards rendering their labors successful, are liberal, manly, and just: whilst they, humbly treading in the steps of their great Master, can only expect to find calumniators and misrepresentors in the bulk of those who occasionally visit Otaheite; — can only expect obloquy for their zeal for his cause, and for their efforts in diffusing the light of his Gospel; have fortunately met with one man, who dares to do justice to their virtues, to their piety, and their labors. Worldly missionaries generally obtain praise, and seek for it; but those, whose hearts, enlightened by truth divine, yearn over idolators: whose aim is to disseminate the truths, the simple, the splendid, the uncom-

mentaried, the unchurch-dignified truths of the Gospel of Christ, generally meet with obloquy and scorn. It will be great matter of thankfulness for the Otaheitan missionaries, to the Society who sent them thither, to their friends, and to all real Christians, that their name, their cause, and their labor of love, is so well spoken of, and that their deservings are so fairly and unequivocally made known.—The author's voyage appears only to have produced his work, but his labor cannot be said to have been in vain; he has done justice to deserving men, and communicated a great deal of useful or interesting information.

L.

**LXXII. *A Treatise on the CONSTRUCTION, and COPYING all Kinds of GEOGRAPHICAL MAPS. Illustrated by Copper Plates and WoodCuts. By THOMAS DIX. 8vo. pp. 360. 3s. 1805. Scatcherd and Letterman.***

**T**HE importance of a tolerable knowledge of geography, to the generality of people destined for active life in this present enlightened age, is too well known to need our enlarging on its excellencies; nor need we point out to most people the superiority which the actual construction of maps must necessarily give to the student, over others who have learnt geography by dry and tedious descriptions, committed to memory: the one may be said to be the practical man, the other a theorist; so decidedly does the employment of two or more senses, in acquiring any science, excel that of any single one. This little work is intended to assist the student in becoming a practical geographer, by facilitating his progress in constructing maps from his own knowledge, or in copying others for

amusement or information. It is intended — “to divest the subject of Projection of its formidable mathematical appearance, and to render it, and the minutiae of mapping in general, more comprehensible and more pleasing to young students, by removing the difficulties which have hitherto attended them.”—In fact, it may be called the mapper's first book, and principally proposes to render the practical part familiar and intelligible.

The work is divided into four parts; the first elucidates the Globular, Stereographic, and Mercator's projection of the world; the second is on the projection of maps of particular parts of the world; the third contains a description of instruments, by the help of which, the meridians and parallels of latitude may be drawn with great facility; and the fourth gives directions for inserting places, drawing rivers, sea-coasts, and other boundaries, and for copying, colouring, mounting, and other minutiae of mapping. An appendix is added, to demonstrate the truth of the four tables of radii, given in the first part for the projection of the sphere.

This little publication contains several methods of laying down maps with precision, without having recourse to long radii, and such as would often, according to the size of the intended map, require compasses with legs of an inconvenient length. Generally speaking, it contains all that is necessary for practical mapping, but we think it on the whole rather too scientific for those for whom it is designed; because, in order fully to enter into it, they must possess a certain degree of preliminary knowledge, which, if once obtained, might not impossibly supersede the necessity of the author's remarks.—It may, however, be safely recommended to the young geographer; particularly as the practical me-



thods, in which its chief merit will, in our opinion, be found to consist, will afford him several desirable facilities, and greatly shorten his operations and labor. Such books are greatly wanted in our country schools, where they might, by tempting the student to dare at things a little out of the common way, occasionally elicit a portion of genius, which, for want of such stimulus, might be compelled to lie dormant in situations from which it rarely can break forth.

O.

LXXXIII. *A Medical and Experimental Inquiry into the Origin, Symptoms, and Cure, of CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES; particularly Scrophula, Consumption, Cancer, and Gout. Illustrated by Cases.* By WILLIAM LAMBE, M.D. Fellow of the College of Physicians. 8vo. pp. 274. 7s. boards. 1805. Mawman.

IN this theorising and speculative age, when the crude conceptions of the youthful and inexperienced, and the learned trifling of the more aged and practised, are alike offered to our consideration; when to read the generality of medical works is to experience more or less disappointment and disgust, from the futile modes of reasoning and explanation adopted and argued on by their authors; we are glad now and then to discover facts on which we can rely, and joyfully skim over whole pages of reasoning, which seldom convey information, and rarely illustrate the author's own ideas, so as to enable his reader to enter fully into his views, and are totally inadequate, unless he has been accustomed to think in the author's way, to guide him in adopting and applying his practice with the certainty and success, experienced by himself. That

this character will apply to the major part of the medical productions of the present day, we apprehend will be allowed without hesitation by practical men: the fact is notorious to the inexperienced, and even students hourly deplore the want of theoretic reasoning, on which they can rely, and which will enable them to classify and arrange the host of facts which medical works present them, in forms innumerable. We are glad to see facts brought forth, but we are sorry to see them so ill explained and reasoned on; and still more dissatisfied at the clumsy way in which they are observed and communicated to the public, as they usually are.

These remarks will more or less apply to the work under consideration; and yet we have no hesitation in ranking it among first-rate and deserving contemporary medical treatises. If this be deemed paradoxical, we explain it by saying, that the fault is not with the author, it is in the times; and, if he be to blame, it is only for following the *via trita*, which is generally said to be the *via tuta*: — it is for not adopting better modes of reasoning; whereas, in those which he uses, he is often more lucid than his fellows, and generally acute and discerning.

It scarcely can have escaped the attention of intelligent and observing practitioners, though the circumstance has hardly been brought before the public in a separate treatise previously to the present work, that there is a certain something in the human frame, whose constant tendency is to irritate and destroy the powers and actions of every the most minute fibre, of every system of vessels of which the body is composed, and from which no part is exempt in a greater or less degree, varying however in different constitutions. This prin-

principal, denominated by Dr. Lambe the SEPTIC POISON, forms the subject of the present inquiry; and he certainly deserves well of mankind and of medical science for calling their attention to it, and for offering the result of his observations to the notice of his brother practitioners: it is worthy serious investigation; and his book, which is well written, and uniformly displays superior sense, ought most certainly to be in the hands of every one desirous of enlarging the boundaries of his own knowledge and of extending the sphere of his usefulness amongst his suffering fellow-creatures. Every man, able to appreciate the imperfection of medical science, will know what we mean; and, if he read Dr. Lambe's work, we doubt not but he will heartily concur with our opinion, and reiterate our recommendation. In our future remarks, we beg leave to hint to our readers, that, though we may not always agree with the author in his reasoning, we generally concur in his practice, and seriously recommend it for adoption and trial; particularly, as it is easy to be comprehended, and not less easy of application in numerous instances.

The work commences with some preliminary considerations on the human frame in general; and the reasonings and explanations, therein adopted and laid down, are afterwards applied to the consideration of those *Opprobria Medicorum*, schrophula, consumption, cancer, and gout: it closes with two cases, and a variety of experiments on water.

In the preliminary considerations, which may be said to contain the author's grand deductions from his observations and practice, he commences with laying down the distinction betwixt active and chronic, or, as he properly calls

them, constitutional diseases; and briefly informing us that the latter class is the more immediate object of his attention. He next considers their similarity; and endeavours to account for it by attributing most of them, as a common origin, to a certain deleterious matter, to be found in every human body, and which he denominates, SEPTIC POISON. "I hope to shew," says he, "that, however diversified be the forms and symptoms of these diseases, they may all be traced to the operation of a common matter, introduced into the system *from without*. This matter has its origin from the decomposition of animal, and, perhaps, of vegetable bodies. It is probably to be found in a great variety of forms and modifications, with which I do not pretend to be intimately acquainted. As it is of a deleterious nature, and has hitherto escaped observation, I take the liberty to designate it generally by the name of SEPTIC POISON; and, to lay the foundations, on which these opinions are built, is the principal object of this inquiry." After a few more considerations on the means by which this deleterious matter is rendered effective in the human body, and which must evidently be its circulating fluids, he at length comes to the conclusion, that it is introduced almost entirely from without, and principally in combination with the WATER, which we so necessarily and in so many modes introduce into the system.

Whilst we thank Dr. Lambe for calling our attention to this part of a simple, of a grand law of nature, we are tempted, with proper deference to his opinions, to think his explanation inadequate to account for the numerous and varied effects of this deleterious principle; nor are we

inclined to think it so simple in its composition, as his treatise would seem to imply. That the ACID POISON exists, we have no doubt, but we think it in different people, to put on characters so various, as totally to change its appearance. An intelligent friend of the writer of this article thinks it an acid, or to consist in a general acidification of the body; and in many instances it undoubtedly is rendered apparent by a continued superabundance of acid in the stomach. We instance gout, rheumatism, indigestion, hypochondriasis, melancholy, melancholic madness, cutaneous eruptions of some kinds. In other instances, it appears to consist in what has usually been denominated acrimony of the fluids, such as is found in habits called scrophulous; a term by far too general in its application to be of much service to the student. It is however to be found sufficiently apparent in that state of constitution, wherein the secretions are more or less serous, and possessed of the power of excoriating the sound skin of the body in which it is generated. Hence in this class we may probably include scorbutus, scrophula, (so called,) cancer, many cutaneous eruptions, virulent cases of small pox and measles, scarlatina, erysipelatous affections, typhoid fevers, plagues, and possibly all the horrible variations of the class Exanthemata of Dr. Cullen. The subject is too extensive to be presented, even in brief outline, in this place; and in the hasty enumeration we have given, we may have run far too fast; we shall therefore at present content ourselves with giving our opinion as to the simple law by which it is generated, and trust to the good sense of Dr. Lambe for

a candid admission or denial of its accuracy or untruth.

However much it has lately been the fashion to explode the humoral pathology, we have no doubt that, as far as it goes, and properly limited and defined, it will soon regain a great share of the empire of which it has so injudiciously been dispossessed by the Cullenians and other spasmodists. The fluids have qualities, (if they be not apparent in Edinburgh, its inhabitants have great cause for thankfulness,) which render their operation sufficiently obvious in the country where the writer of this article was educated; though much less in degree than in a large sea-port town, where he afterwards resided; and still less than in this great and luxurious city, where it exceeds all calculation. The principal component parts, with the exception of water, appear to be certain acid salts, both by their effects on the living parts to which they are occasionally applied, by their analogy to the natural excretions of the body, and by the grosser part of their products, when subjected to the gross and simplified operations of a chemist's laboratory. In the diversified operations and actions of the diversified vessels of the varying human frame, it is no difficult matter to suppose, that the productions, their necessary result, must exhibit innumerable and varying appearances, as one or other of their component ingredients shall be predominant;—that in one case they shall be one thing, in another, another;—that in one constitution they may be of a nature we call acid, in another alkaline, in a third acid, in a fourth phosphoric, and in innumerable others of a kind differing from all these and from each other, though it may still be the ACID POISON,

and in every shape sufficiently deleterious to wear out, to consume, and destroy, the body which generates it. In reality, it appears to be that power, by which the body, in one way or other, is eventually returned to the parent, who kindly lent her earthy parts, whereon the remainder should exert their energies, and, together with the breath of God, constitute a living body.

It will readily be perceived, that our opinion of the nature of this SEPTIC POISON, no way militates against that of the author; it is in reality only an extension of his principle: he thinks it to be the result of animalised or, in some instances, of arsenicated water, when introduced into the human body by way of *ingestum*; we think it to be a principle naturally inherent in its constituent structure, and that, though it may be increased by the introduction of animalised production from without, it nevertheless is always present, and always within, from the nature of things,—from the construction of the human frame. This opinion, as we may hereafter mention, will lead to a much larger series of practical deductions than appears to have been in the contemplation of Dr. Lambe. He attends to the qualities of water solely, our opinion extends to the whole range of ingesta, of whatever kind they be; whether by way of solid food, water, or air. His opinion is a result, our's is, *sub judice*, a general law.

Though we thus attempt to limit the Doctor's idea of the SEPTIC POISON, we do not deny him the merit of treating his subject with great acuteness; particularly when we reflect on the difficulty of making way in a field untrodden by our predecessors. Those, who know what it is to establish new ideas in medicine, in the present

state of the science, with the little aid to be obtained from the major part of medical works, can alone form a conception of the calm thought and reiterated observation which are necessary, and the numerous rebuffs to be experienced, in bringing them even to tolerable consistency. Dr. Lambe brings many reasons for his conclusion, which are well worth consultation; and does not appear to be wholly unacquainted with the extension of his principle into a general law, when he intimates, that "putrid meat, musty bread, and in short every article of diet approaching to corruption, is also a true poison to the human body:" and he goes on to say, that, though these are not commonly taken in sufficient quantity to shew great and common effects, yet that these effects are now and then sufficiently obvious in "seasons of scarcity or dearth, when probably far greater numbers perish from the bad qualities of the provisions than absolute want." Those who have observed the concurrence of pestilence and famine will heartily subscribe to this judicious observation; and the whole taken together will be a proof, that the operation of the general law, as laid down by us, is not far from truth. We are not wanting in observations, even within the period of ten years, which, had we room, we should bring forward to prove Dr. Lambe's remark to be strictly true.

Having given his idea of the SEPTIC POISON, the Doctor proceeds to the means of obviating its deleterious effects; which, as he conceives it to be introduced into the system in the water commonly used, he proposes to cure by substituting for it, that fluid divested of all foreign matter in its stead. His reasoning is not unjust; and several cases which are communicated af-

ford great room to hope, that many severe constitutional and horrible complaints may be alleviated, if not radically removed, by its use, to the exclusion of all other fluids, unless it be milk. If our opinion, however, be true, and we have little reason to doubt it, it will be sufficiently obvious, that, as putrid or putrifying matter is carried into the system in the solid food, in many ways, we ought also to prevent its introduction as much as possible through these channels: hence, with pure or distilled water as drink, we ought to conjoin mild and simple animal jellies, or milk, or the farinaceous jellies, or other similar preparations; and to enjoin the one as rigidly as the other. If the Doctor's plan be effectual, we have little doubt but the additional precautions, recommended by us will greatly add to its efficacy:—the subject is highly deserving the attention of medical men. We might just hint, that we dissent in some measure, or rather that we do not entirely subscribe to the whole of his opinion respecting the action of distilled water; he thinks it to act entirely by not conveying fresh SEPTIC POISON into the constitution, which, as far as it goes, is probably true; but we should think that, divested of foreign combinations, it is the more ready to dissolve certain matters constituent of SEPTIC POISON; and, by entering into combination with them, promote their expulsion by the natural excretions. The case we think to apply fairly to those acid diatheses and diseases, generating what is usually denominated chalkstone, though its application is not so immediately obvious in the other classes, which we have laid down, when treating on the nature of the SEPTIC POISON.

Our limits compel us to shorten our observations on this interesting work, otherwise we should have experienced great pleasure in examining its leading positions throughout, which we certainly should have felt little inclination to do, had we not thought it to possess merit; we shall therefore only offer a remark or two on the regimen recommended by the Doctor, in aid of his course of distilled water. With respect to food, he properly, as we should think, forbids the use of salted provisions, all of which are well known to introduce a SEPTIC POISON, most probably of an alkalescent kind, as in sea scurvy; and for which, fermented liquors and vegetable acids, so hurtful in the acid diathesis, are a ready cure. We should, on our plan, also recommend the gelatinous parts of unputrified or untainted animal or farinaceous food as a desirable auxiliary, with a view of preventing the introduction of SEPTIC POISON in any shape liable to produce the alkaline or other particles generated by putrefaction; the which, united to the general disposition to produce SEPTIC POISON inherent in the construction of the human frame, must naturally increase the mischief.

With regard to drinks, Dr. Lambe, rigidly excludes all, whose basis is common water, for obvious reasons; but he does not appear, in any case, to deny the use of fermented or spirituous liquors; hence, cider, perry, good foreign wines, brandy, rum, &c. are admitted, as far as is necessary to, and consistent with, our habits. If the author would follow up his ideas with energy, and if our opinions are right, we think that wherever the acid diathesis is prevalent, they ought all to be excluded, or their use admitted with



great caution; though in some frames, those possessing sea scurvy for example, fermented liquors and vegetable acids are, as we said above, a ready cure. Alcoholic stimulants are often in acid SEPTIC POISON highly injurious, because they have a tendency to excite acid secretion of the stomach; when, unless an emetic were instantly taken, it had better been left unprovoked. Weak or vegetable acids are still worse, because they possess sufficient alcohol to excite secretion; whilst the acid of their composition, combining with that they excite, adds tenfold mischief to the business. On this principle, too, peppers and other aromatics may prove highly injurious, by filling the stomach with acid, which, unless immediately evacuated, will add to the mischief: at any rate, all stimulants are apt to produce a superabundance of acid in the stomach; and the stomachs of such as are gouty, rheumatic, certain paralytics, hypochondriacs, with several other similar diseases, are well known to be generally overloaded with such an acid. Other cases of SEPTIC POISON will require other modes of reasoning; and it undoubtedly has happened, from considering things a little too much in the gross, that the author has in our opinion been a little aside; but we have no doubt that, in practice, he would adapt the regimen of every patient to his particular state, and that, with tolerable certainty, from the disposition manifested to produce this or that kind of SEPTIC POISON. Many other remarks might here be superadded, but the above will be sufficient to illustrate our opinion as to the nature of this general law; and, if we are right, it will readily be perceived, that SEPTIC POISON may be of many kinds, varied in many ways, and each requiring separate modes of reasoning; —

that it admits of many divisions, and that, far from being a simple something, it admits of numerous and diversified methods of cure. We give our opinions *sub judice*, and doubt not but they will be treated with candid attention by the medical world, and by the respectable author of this work.

After dismissing the general or preliminary considerations on the nature and cure of SEPTIC POISON, the author proceeds to consider it as existent in SCROPHULA; his remarks, generally speaking, are judicious; and, as this diseased structure forms the parent of a long train of others, we wish that he had bestowed a little more attention on it. The remarks it contains are worthy attention, though we might, on our reasoning, occasionally raise objections to some of his positions. The observations on CONSUMPTION are spirited, generally new, and often just; but they are rendered obscure from want of distinguishing the various species into which the disease, as a genus, may be divided. Many of the reasonings adopted by the Doctor here, as in the preliminary considerations, are equally open to censure; but, as we said above, it is the fault of the fashion of the times in respect to medical reasoning. We recommend them highly to the notice of the medical or intelligent reader, particularly as a great deal of the jargon of the times is entirely excluded.

The Doctor's observations on CANCER are not less judicious than those on consumption, and not less deserving of attention; when he divests himself of fashionable theory, he is singularly happy and acute in his observations. Those on GOUT are, generally speaking, admirable, and

in our opinion much nearer the truth than many others. What we have called the acid diathesis, affords with its necessary concomitant a disposition to stoney secretion in the end of vessels, far more decided characteristics than most others; and the Doctor, besides perceiving it, has reasoned on it in a superior style. His theory of a fit of gout is undoubtedly far better than that of Dr. Cullen; but, simple as it is, we think it liable to numerous objections, which we should in justice to the author have laid down in this place, had we not already far transgressed our proper limits.

In giving our opinion on the general character of this valuable inquiry, we gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity to do justice to the originality, ingenuity, candor, and, perseverance, of its

author; and, whilst we regret that he has too often suffered himself to argue after the mode of the times, we cordially thank him for departing from it in instances sufficient to enable us to announce it, when compared with most treatises, as an original work. It is one of the many attacks on the strong holds of medical jargon, which we doubt not will become more and more numerous, and attended with greater and increasing success; nor can we take our leave of it, without recommending it to the notice of such medical men as feel themselves interested in the improvement of medical science, and who are ardent enough to be desirous of extending the sphere of their usefulness to suffering humanity.

A.

## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

*To the Editor of the Monthly Epitome.*

SIR, November 18, 1805.

CÆSAR's laughing at and threatening the pirates, when a single man in their power, as stated in his life by Plutarch, had nothing really great or wise in it. To vaunt of what we can or will do, while our hands are empty, and a thousand accidents may keep them ever so, is ridiculous daring, not true bravery. Had not the pirates in their own minds contemned such impotent menaces, nothing was more easy than for men, who scrupled not to shed blood as served their purposes, to have cut short the exploits of the mighty Cæsar.—That the event turned out otherwise is no praise to him. He risked every thing, without a

single advantage in prospect for so doing. Could a fool, or a madman, have done worse? Events nor justify nor condemn measures absolutely; motives and means must be weighed, and carefully attended to, in order to form a proper decision on actions.

Reading on, I found, in the comparison between Alexander and Cæsar, the latter was rather celebrated by Plutarch for his behaviour to the pirates; which however does not alter my opinion. It was rash, and unbecoming true wisdom, which never shines with a better lustre than when clothed in the robe of caution, which should always be at hand to be worn as times and circumstances require.

I am, Sir, yours's &c.

WITHANIENSIS.

To the Editor of the *Monthly Epitome*.

Sir, Rochester, Aug. 8, 1805.

AS it may possibly afford some pleasure to your readers to have a brief account of those extensive lines which government have been constructing, within the last two years, for the protection of the dock-yard and arsenal of Chatham, and for the defence of the country in case of invasion, if it fall within your plan, I beg your insertion of the following account: These lines, which are now nearly completed, constitute one of the most important military undertakings which this country has been lately engaged in, whether we consider their extent, the manner in which they are finished, or the magnitude of the object which they are intended to answer.

Chatham has for several years had a fort, which, though of no great size, is remarkably strong, and is situated on the high ground behind the garrison; the works referred to form a continuation to this fort on each side: they run along the high ground beyond Brompton, towards and as far as the low ground near Gillingham-bridge, whence they are carried on, in a curved direction, to the bank of the Medway, along which it is proposed to continue them, by an embankment, as far as the extremity of the dock-yard, at the foot of the floating-bridge. They are constructed on the plan of regular fortifications, surrounded by a broad deep ditch faced with brick-work, which is not as yet completed, but the number of men employed on it, most of them soldiers, will probably finish the whole in a few weeks. The ditch is enfiladed by proper angles, and the guns are already mounted on the principal batteries; so that, for the purposes of defence, it may be con-

sidered as nearly complete. and it is conjectured that a garrison of 20,000 men would make a powerful stand against a large opposing force.

Besides the extension of these works on the side of Gillingham, they have also been constructed, in a complete manner, from the garrison down to the town of Chatham, a little below the church: the hill, which was not long ago a mere waste, is now intersected with ramparts, and presents a formidable aspect. The road from Chatham to Gillingham, by the church and the marine barracks, will no longer be open as a thorough-fare, but will form the entrance to the dock-yard; and another road is formed through the lines somewhat higher up, which will lead to the barracks, Gillingham, Brompton, &c. The ramparts too, on this side, will extend to the brink of the river, in a manner similar to those below the dock-yard: thus, a line of ramparts, nearly three miles long, will enclose and protect the military and marine barracks, the docks, stores, arsenals, the floating-bridge, the town of Brompton, and the extensive new barracks at present erecting behind the latter place. These barracks are situated on the most elevated spot within the lines, are built of brick and Portland stone, are two or three stories high, and will contain three thousand men: there is too, within the lines, sufficient room for 20,000 men.

The floating-bridge, which we incidentally mentioned above, promises to be of great utility in a military point of view; because, should it become necessary to complete it, part of it only being finished at present for the benefit of the river-trade, it will reach the opposite shore of the Medway, a little above Upnor-castle, whence it is proposed to construct a mili-

tary road, leading into the present London one, between Gravesend and Rochester. By this means, troops may be conveyed, if necessary, without delay into the lower part of Kent; and it would be of great public utility, should it become necessary, to render Rochester-bridge impassable, on the approach of a hostile force.

Besides these fortifications, which lie on the north-east side of Chatham, and which appear to be principally intended for the protection of the dock-yard, &c. there are other important ones erected on the walls south of the town. The new military hospital, now used as barracks, is already protected by a rampart, and it is proposed to carry a line of intrenchments thence, along the hills behind Rochester, to that part of the Medway which is above the bridge. Hence, the leading communication betwixt London and the Kentish coast will be protected, and the progress of an invading army rendered much less expeditious and certain, whilst the march of our own armies will be greatly facilitated; the entrance of the Medway will also be completely guarded by these fortifications.

In addition to the above account of these fortifications, we may add, that the Martello towers, which are building after the plan proposed by Colonel Crawford, in the low grounds near Folkstone, are nearly finished: they are three in number, and erected each in the angle of a triangle: they are circular, with the roof built like a dome, will mount a piece of artillery, and have a great many port-holes for small arms.

The stupendous fortifications on the heights near Dover, are proceeding with great expedition, as four thousand men are daily employed on them, and they will, when finished, mount 150 pieces of cannon.

It has been objected, that the advantage of these works will be more than counterbalanced by their expense; I should, however, be inclined to hazard an opinion to the contrary: the state of security which we have of late owed to the superiority of our fleets has caused too great a degree of supineness with respect to fortifications; and it is only from necessity that we are again beginning to resort to them. As defences to our arsenals, and more especially to such a place as Chatham, they are absolutely necessary, to prevent their being taken by a *coup de main*; and it requires little military knowledge to ascertain their importance, *à points d'appui*, and that, more especially, in the present state of the country, when our military force would want a little concentration. For my part, I think the expense of the erection to be of little more importance than the dust of the balance: I should like to see some others of our principal rivers and towns thus guarded; for, if fortifications are merely useful as *points d'appui*, they are always of great service; and though, if near a town, they may cause it to be battered about the ears of its inhabitants, that inconvenience, if it shall be thought a greater one than being ransacked by an enemy, may be easily avoided, by erecting them at some distance from it. The river Humber might be formidably defended, without endangering that opulent and valuable trading town, Hull, in the least, by a judicious erection of batteries and lines; or, if thought better, forts on its opposite shores; these, with a few guard-ships, might effectually close that important river, and afford a serious check to hostile attacks on that quarter.

I am, your's &c.

S. R. N.

To the Editor of the Monthly Epitome.

SIR, Seymour-street, Dec. 9.

AS the following observations on a vegetable plant of China may not be uninteresting to some classes of your readers, I beg leave to solicit its insertion in your valuable and justly-esteemed paper.

The Areka, or Surraji of China, is used among the Chinese by wrapping it in the leaf of the Betel or Paungleaf, a shrub similar to the Woodbine or Ivy of England; which encircles itself round the Areka tree, a species of Palm, that generally attains the height of 30 or 40 feet; perfectly strait, of the circumference of a full-grown poplar, with protuberant rings on the bark at equal distances; possessing no branches but at the head, where it spreads itself, and to them is suspended the fruit or nut of the Areka, erroneously termed *beetle-nut*, enveloped in an outward coating of numerous filaments, being about the size of an English walnut, but more conical: this husk is not unlike in its structure to the rind of a cocoa-nut, but more soft and pliable. I imagine it is either in quantity insufficient, or there is a succedaneum in the bark of other trees more profitable in converting it into paper, which the Chinese wrought from almost every species of cortical vegetable. The properties of the Areka are unparalleled as an extreme beautifier and eminent preserver of the teeth; its strong astringency gives them strength, and is unexceptionably the finest antiscorbutic known. I have seen many Europeans that have had the most indifferent teeth, and who were frequently troubled with that tantalizing affliction, the tooth-ache, by a short residence in India, where they have constantly accustomed

themselves to its use, have permanently been relieved, and the appearance of their teeth improved wonderfully: even the most offensive breath has been overcome, as it possesses one of the most incomparable odours I have either met with in China, the Moluccas, or whole Peninsula of Indostan. I may perhaps be considered too sanguine or partial in my praise of this vegetable; yet I feel confident no one who is acquainted with it will correct my statement any ways unfavorable to the description I have given. It is to be regretted that it has not long since been a principle article of importation, so highly and so justly as it is esteemed in China; yet in Europe it is in fact scarcely known. It may perhaps be considered in this country extraordinary, since its virtues are so great, when I mention it is notwithstanding neither cultivated among agriculturists or private gentlemen. In India it is the promiscuous inhabitant of every wood or jungle; and, like many of our most valuable herbs, grows spontaneously in the fields, unheeded or disregarded but by the herbalist or botanist.—The saliva that is produced by chewing this nut is of the most beautiful red the eye can witness or the imagination conceive; and, were there a possibility of extracting the dye, its richness would be unexampled, and would displace those that are now held in the highest consideration. But the colour of this nut is only imparted in its green state; when it becomes hardened, it neither will disclose this valuable property to aqueous, spirituous, or oily menstrua; and no means which I have as yet been made acquainted with are capable of success. I have heard of its being infused after levigation in spirits, and acting as



a great corroborator of the stomach, and facilitating digestion. As a styptic medicine, it may not be inferior to the best Peruvian bark; it is perfectly tasteless, otherwise than from the aromatic effluvia which arises after it is chewed. From the circumstance of the betel growing round the areka-tree, we may attribute the cause of the leaf of this vine being wrapped and chewed together with the areka-nut, as if nature indicated the propriety of blending them in order, as it is perfectly known to correct the predominant bitterness of the betel by the aromatic flavor of the areka; the anodyne qualities of the former rendering it a peculiar favourite of the natives. Its intoxicating nature procures alleviation to the poor distressed Indian, softens the acuteness of poignant reflection, and delights the imagination with every Utopia of bliss; no wonder then that these inoffensive associates of human society should seek a softener of their cares, which Nature has so judiciously and humanely allotted them, in the recluses of their country. In no quarter of the earth has Providence omitted to scatter its beneficence; she has every where provided an asylum for the afflicted, a solace to the oppressed, and the means of comforting and exhilarating human nature under the severest trials. The areka-nut is most frequent in the provinces of Siam, Molacca, Cambodia, and Cochin-China: it is more prolific along the eastern coast of the bay of Bengal, and flourishes in the neighbouring isles of Sumatra, Pulo-Penang, &c. The East-India-Company purchase the ammonian, a measure of 20,000 arekas, or about 260 pound weight, for about 2000 fectus, equal to nine shillings and six

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pence, English; although individuals pay equivalent to three-pence a pound. The betel is cultivated in most parts of India, and not dissimilar to the growth of hops, the leaf approaching the laurel, and the blossom the pear; it forms a pretty appearance, and the leaf with the areka and chunam, a lime produced from calcined shells, furnishes one of the greatest luxuries in the whole eastern empire. It is ranked among the accomplishments, is every where presented as the first offering of friendship, and denoted in every station as an emblem of the highest respect. The soil most adapted for the culture of the betel, is a rich loam, or heavy clay; and, like the manchineal of Barbadoes, skirts the coasts of the ocean. It may not be perhaps irrelevant at this place, to take notice of a circumstance of the manchineal, not less singular than the betel attaching itself to the areka, and forming to each other an equilibrium that corrects the too potent qualities contained in them separately, that might otherwise defeat the end for which they were designed. In every place where the growth of the manchineal exists, it is accompanied by a protective plant, that affords a juice which searches the progress of the poison, and secures the unfortunate person from becoming its victim. In like manner the rattle-snake-root is a safe antidote against the bite of that reptile. The value of the nut, when it has been to be purchased in this country, is from three shillings and sixpence to five shillings a pound; and, when properly levigated, produces not more than from three to four ounces. The manner to distinguish their goodness is their being free from holes, or any appearance where grubs

have inserted themselves; pale colour; and, when broke, clear, and thickly marbled with red, purple, or dark, veins; they will run in number from 70 to 80 to the pound avoirdupoise. For a more detailed account I refer my readers to the Encyclopædia, Raynal's Indies, Fenning, Pomet, Grose, &c. &c. If my suggestion, in recommending it as a commodity worthy of enlarged importation, be accepted in the opinion of any India adventurer, I shall feel satisfied in having been the promoter of an article, which, from my experience of its qualities, entitles it to every attention of the philosophical and commercial branches of society; and it will procure to me the greatest pleasure should it prove beneficial in any other manner than that which I have stated.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

C. CRAWFORD HUTCHINSON.

*To the Editor of the Monthly Epitome.*  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne,  
Dec. 10, 1805,

SIR,  
IN your Number of October last, I observed a paragraph announcing the discovery of Messrs. Hobson and Sylvester, of Sheffield, respecting the malleability of zinc, and which it would seem, from the manner in which the passage is worded, to be solely attributable to these gentlemen. From some circumstances, however, which have fallen within my observation, I am induced to think the discovery not entirely their's, or not entirely new; the rolling of zinc into plates having previously been attempted with success.

About four years ago, Mr. Stancliff, who, it will be recollected, delivered lectures on chemistry in various parts of England, whilst in the north, visited this place. His course naturally included an account of galvanism, at that time a

more recent discovery; and his pile was as large or larger than any which had then been used, owing to his having had the zinc rolled into plates; his predecessors usually having their's cast. In his lecture he mentioned the superiority of his pile as originating from this circumstance; it being usually thought impossible, from the supposed want of malleability in the metal, to obtain plates of any size beyond such as could conveniently be cast; whereas, his were as much as four inches by three in extent. He likewise said, that he had procured them either from Sheffield or Birmingham, but, as I write from memory, I cannot positively say which; and possibly the same gentlemen may have rolled Mr. Stancliff's plates; and extended their idea so as to have completed it to the extent you announce. The discovery would seem therefore to be not entirely new: however, it is matter for satisfaction, to find the means of domestic comfort and national advantage multiplied; and, if mankind should benefit by the discovery, it will afford pleasure to  
Your's, &c.

C. L. K.

*To the Editor of the Monthly Epitome.*  
*A brief Account of the Travels of*  
Messrs. HUMBOLDT and BONPLAND, between the Tropics, in 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803, and 1804. By J. C. DELAMETHIERE. [Concluded from p. 363]

DURING his residence at Quito, M. Humboldt received a letter from the French National Institute, informing him that Captain Baudin had set out for New Holland, pursuing an easterly course by the Cape of Good Hope. He found it necessary, therefore, to give up all idea of joining him, though our travellers had enter-

tained this hope for thirteen months; by which means they lost the advantage of an easy passage from the Havannah to Mexico and the Philippines. It had made them travel by sea and by land more than a thousand leagues to the south, exposed to every extreme of temperature, from summits covered with perpetual snow to the bottom of those profound ravines, where the thermometer stands night and day between  $25^{\circ}$  and  $31^{\circ}$  of Reaumur.

But, accustomed to disappointments of every kind, they readily consoled themselves on account of their fate. They were once more sensible, that man must depend only on what can be produced by his own energy; and Baudin's voyage, or rather the false intelligence of the direction he had taken, made them traverse immense countries, towards which no naturalist perhaps would otherwise have turned his researches. M. Humboldt being then resolved to pursue his own expedition, proceeded from Quito towards the river Amazon and Lima, with a view of making the important observation of the transit of Mercury over the sun's disk.

Our travellers first visited the ruins of Lactacunga, Hambato, and Riobamba, a district convulsed by the dreadful earthquake of the year 1797. They passed through the snows of Assonay to Cuenca, and thence with great difficulty, on account of the carriage of their instruments and packages of plants, by the Parama of Saraguro to Loxa. It was here, in the forests of Gonzinama and Malacates, that they studied the valuable tree which first made known to man the febrifuge qualities of cinchona. The extent of the territory which their travels embraced gave them an advantage never before enjoyed by any botanist, namely, that of comparing the different

kind<sup>s</sup> of cinchona of Santa Fé, Popayan, Cuenca, Loxa, and Jaen, with the *cuspa* and *euspare* of Cumana and Rio Careny, the latter of which, named improperly *Cortex angustura*, appears to belong to a new genus of the *pentandria monogynia*, with alternate leaves.

From Loxa they entered Peru by Ayavaca and Guncabamba, traversing the high summit of the Andes, to proceed to the river Amazon. They had to pass thirty-five times, in the course of two days, the river Chamaya, sometimes on a raft, and sometimes by fording. They saw the superb remains of the causeway of Ynga, which may be compared to the most beautiful causeways in France and Spain, and which proceeds on the porphyritic ridge of the Andes, from Cusco to Assonay, and is furnished with *cambo* (fountains) and public fountains. They then embarked on a raft of *ochroma*, at the small Indian village of Chamaya, and descended by the river of the same name to that of the Amazons; determining, by the culmination of several stars, and by the difference of time, the astronomical position of that confluence.

La Condamine, when he returned from Quito to Para and to France, embarked on the river Amazon only below Quebrada de Chucunga; he therefore observed the longitude only at the mouth of the Rio Napo. M. Humboldt endeavoured to supply this deficiency in the beautiful chart of the French astronomer, navigating the river Amazon as far as the cataracts of Rentema; and forming at Tomepanda, the capital of the province of Jaen de Bracamorros, a detailed plan of that unknown part of the Upper Marañon, both from his own observations and the information obtained from Indian travellers. M. Bonpland, in the mean time, made an interesting excursion to the

forests around the town of Jaen, where he discovered new species of cinchona; and, after greatly suffering from the scorching heat of these solitary districts, and admiring a vegetation rich in new species of *Jacquinia*, *Godoya*, *Porteria*, *Bougainvillea*, *Colletia*, and *Pisonia*, our three travellers crossed for the fifth time the cordillera of the Andes by Montan, in order to return to Peru.

They fixed the point where Borda's compass indicated the zero of the magnetic inclination, though at seven degrees of south latitude. They examined the mines of Hualguayoc, where native silver is found in large masses at the height of 2000 *toises* above the level of the sea, in mines; some metalliferous veins of which contain petrified shells; and which, with those of Huontajayo, are at present the richest of Peru. From Caxamarca, celebrated by its thermal waters, and by the ruins of the palace of Atahualpa, they descended to Truxillo, in the neighbourhood of which are found vestiges of the immense Peruvian city of Manfische, ornamented with pyramids; in one of which was discovered, in the eighteenth century, hammered gold to the value of more than 150,000*l.* sterling.

On this western declivity of the Andes, our travellers enjoyed, for the first time, the striking view of the Pacific Ocean; and from that long and narrow valley, the inhabitants of which are unacquainted with rain or thunder; and where, under a happy climate, the most absolute power, and that most dangerous to man, theocracy itself, seems to imitate the beneficence of nature.

From Truxillo they followed the dry coasts of the South Sea, formerly watered and rendered fertile by the canals of the Ynga; nothing of which remains but melancholy ruins. When they arrived, by Santa

and Guarmey, at Lima, they remained some months in that interesting capital of Peru, the inhabitants of which are distinguished by the vivacity of their genius and the liberality of their sentiments. M. Humboldt had the happiness of observing, in a pretty complete manner, at the port of Callao at Lima, the end of the transit of Mercury; a circumstance the more fortunate, as the thick fog which prevails at that season often prevents the sun's disk from being seen for twenty days. He was astonished to find in Peru, at so immense a distance from Europe, the newest literary productions in chemistry, mathematics, and physiology; and he admired the great intellectual activity of a people, whom the Europeans accuse of indolence and luxury.

In the month of January, 1803, our travellers embarked in the King's corvette, *La Castora*, for Guyaquil; a passage which is performed, by the help of the winds and currents, in three or four days; whereas the return from Guyaquil requires as many months. In the former part, situated on the banks of an immense river, the vegetation of which in palms, *plumcra*, *tubernamontana*, and *scitaminea*, is majestic beyond all description. They heard growling every moment the volcano of Catopaxi, which made a dreadful explosion on the 5th of January, 1803.

They immediately set out, that they might have a nearer view of its ravages, and to visit it a second time; but the unexpected news of the sudden departure of the *Atulanta* frigate, and the fear of not finding another opportunity for several months, obliged them to return, after being tormented for seven days by the mosquitoes of Babaoyo and Ugibar.

They had a favourable navigation of thirty days on the Pacific Ocean

to Acapulco, the western port of the kingdom of New Spain; celebrated by the beauty of its bason, which appears to have been cut out in the granite rocks by the violence of earthquakes; celebrated also by the wretchedness of its inhabitants, who see three millions of piastres embarked for the Philippines and China; and unfortunately celebrated by a climate as scorching as mortal.

M. Humboldt intended at first to stay only a few months in Mexico, and to hasten his return to Europe; his travels had already been too long; the instruments, and particularly the time-keepers, began to be gradually damaged; and all the efforts he had made to get new ones had proved fruitless. Besides, the progress of the sciences in Europe is so rapid, that in travels of more than four years a traveller may see certain phenomena under points of view which are no longer interesting, when his labours are presented to the public.

M. Humboldt flattered himself with the hope of being in England in the months of August or September, 1803; but the attraction of a country so beautiful and so variegated as the kingdom of New Spain, the great hospitality of its inhabitants, and the dread of the yellow-fever at Vera-Cruz, which cuts off almost all those who, between the months of June and October, come down from the mountains, induced him to defer his departure till the middle of winter. After having occupied his attention with plants, the state of the air, the hourly variations of the barometer, the phenomena of the magnet, and, in particular, the longitude of Acapulco, a port in which two able astronomers, Messrs. Barinosa and Galeano, had before made observations, our travellers set out for Mexico. They ascended gradually from the scorching valleys of Mescala and Papagayo, where the

thermometer in the shade stood at  $32^{\circ}$  of Reaumur, and where they passed the river on the fruit of the *crescentia pennata*, bound together by ropes of agave, to the high tablelands of Chilpancingo, Tehuillarepe, and Tasca.

At these heights of six or seven hundred *toises* above the level of the sea, in consequence of the mildness and coolness of the climate, the oak, cypress, fir, and fern, begin to be seen, together with the kinds of grain cultivated in Europe.

Having spent some time in the mines of Tasco, the eldest and formerly the richest in the kingdom, and having studied the nature of those silvery veins, which pass from the hard calcareous rock to micaceous schist, and inclose foliaceous gypsum, they ascended, by Cuernavaca and the cold regions of Gachilaca, to the capital of Mexico. This city, (which has 150,000 inhabitants, and stands on the site of the old Tenochtitlan, between the lakes of Tezcuco and Zichimilo, which have decreased in size since the Spaniards, to lessen the danger of inundations, have opened the mountains of Sincoc,) is intersected by broad strait streets. It stands in sight of two snowy mountains, one of which is named Popocatepec; and of a volcano still burning; and, at the height of 1160 *toises*, enjoys a temperate and agreeable climate: it is surrounded by canals, walls bordered with trees, a multitude of Indian hamlets, and without doubt may be compared to the finest cities of Europe. It is distinguished also by its large scientific establishments, which may vie with several of the old continent, and to which there are none similar in the new.

The botanical garden, directed by that excellent botanist M. Cervantes; the expedition of M. Sesse, who is accompanied by able drafts-men, and whose object is to ac-



quire a knowledge of the plants of Mexico; the School of Mines, established by the liberality of the corps of miners, and by the creative genius of M. d'Elhuyar; and the Academy of Painting, Engraving, and Sculpture; all tend to diffuse taste and knowledge in a country, the riches of which seem to oppose intellectual culture.

With instruments taken from the excellent collection of the School of Mines, M. Humboldt determined the longitude of Mexico, in which there was an error of nearly two degrees, as has been confirmed by corresponding observations of the satellites, made at the Havannah.

After a stay of some months in that capital, our travellers visited the celebrated mines of Moran and Real-del-Mante; where the vein of La Biscayna has given millions of piastres to the Counts De Regla. They examined the obsidian stones of Oyamel, which form strata in the pearl-stone and porphyry, and served as knives to the ancient Mexicans. The whole of this country, filled with basaltes, amygdaloids, and calcareous and secondary formations, from the large cavern of Danto, traversed by a river to the porphyritic rocks of Actopan, presents phenomena interesting to the geologist, which have been already examined by M. del Rio, the pupil of Werner, and one of the most learned mineralogists of the present day.

On their return from their excursion to Moran in July, 1803, they undertook another to the northern part of the kingdom. At first they directed their researches to Huehuetoca; where, at the expense of six millions of piastres, an aperture has been formed in the mountain of Sincoc to drain off the waters from the valley of Mexico to the river Montezuma. They then passed Queretaro by, Salamanca and the

fertile plains of Yrapuato, to Guanaxuato, a town which contains 50,000 inhabitants: it is situated in a narrow defile, and celebrated by its mines, which are of far greater consequence than those of Potosi.

The mine of Count de Valentina, which has given birth to a considerable town on a hill, which, thirty years ago, scarcely afforded pasture to goats, is already 1840 feet in perpendicular depth. It is the deepest and richest in the world; the annual profit of the proprietors having never been less than three millions of livres, and it sometimes amounts to five or six.

After two months employed in measurements and geological researches, and after having examined the thermal waters of Comagillas, the temperature of which is  $11^{\circ}$  of *Reaumur* higher than those of the Philippine islands, which *Sonnerat* considers the hottest in the world, our travellers proceeded through the valley of St. Jago, where they thought they saw in several lakes at the summits of the Basaltic mountains, so many craters of burnt out volcanos, to Valladolid, the capital of the ancient kingdom of Michoacan.—They thence descended, notwithstanding the continual autumnal rains, by Patzquaro, situated on the margin of a very extensive lake, towards the coast of the Pacific Ocean, to the plains of Jorullo; where, in the course of one night, in 1759, during one of the greatest convulsions which the globe ever experienced, there issued from the earth a volcano 1494 feet in height, surrounded by more than 2000 mouths still emitting smoke. They descended into the burning crater of the great volcano to the perpendicular depth of 258 feet, jumping over fissures which exhaled flaming sulphuretted hydrogen gas. After

Great danger, arising from the brittleness of the basaltic and sienitic lava, they reached nearly the bottom of the crater, and analysed the air in it, which was found to be surcharged in an extraordinary manner with carbonic acid.

From the kingdom of Michoacan, one of the most agreeable and most fertile countries in the Indies, they returned to Mexico by the high table-land of Toluca, in which they measured the snowy mountain of the same name, ascending to its highest summit, the peak of Fraide, which rises 2364 toises above the level of the sea. They visited also at Toluca the famous hand-tree, the *cheiranthostamon* of M. Cervantes, a genus which presents a phenomenon almost unique,—that of there being only one individual of it, which has existed since the remotest antiquity.

On their return to the capital of Mexico, they remained there several months to arrange their herbals, abundant in gramineous plants, and their geological collections; to calculate their barometric and trigonometrical measurements performed in the course of that year; and in particular to make fair drawings of the geological atlas, which M. Humboldt proposes to publish.

Their return furnished them also with an opportunity of assisting at the erection of the colossal equestrian statue of the king, which one artist, M. Tolsa, overcoming difficulties, of which a proper idea cannot be formed in Europe, modelled, cast, and erected on a very high pedestal: it is wrought in the simplest style, and would be an ornament in the finest capitals in Europe.

In January, 1804, our travellers left Mexico to explore the eastern declivity of the cordillera of New

Spain; they measured, geometrically, the two volcanoes of Puebla, Popocatepec and Itzaccihuatl. — According to a fabulous tradition, Diego Ordaz entered the inaccessible crater of the former, suspended by ropes, in order to collect sulphur, which may be found every where in the plains.

M. Humboldt discovered that the volcano of Popocatepec, on which M. Sonnenschmidt, a zealous mineralogist, had the courage to ascend 2557 toises, is higher than the peak of Orizaba, which has hitherto been considered the highest colossus of the country of Anahuac. He measured also the great pyramid of Cholula, a mysterious work, constructed of unbaked brick, by the Tulequas, and from the summit of which there is a most beautiful view over the snowy summits and smiling plains of Flaxcala.

After these researches, they descended by Perote and Xalapa, a town situated at the height of 674 toises above the level of the sea, at a mean height at which the inhabitants enjoy the fruits of all climates, and a temperature equally mild and beneficial to the health of man. It was here that, by the kindness of Mr. Thomas Murphy, a respectable individual, who to a large fortune adds a taste for the sciences, our travellers found every facility imaginable for performing their operations in the neighbouring mountains.

The level of the horrid road, which leads from Xalapa to Perote, through almost impenetrable forests of oaks and firs, and which has begun to be converted into a magnificent causeway, was three times taken with the barometer. M. Humboldt, notwithstanding the quantity of snow which had fallen the evening before, ascended to the summit of the famous Cotre, which is 162 toises higher than the Peak

of Teneriffe, and fixed its position by direct observations. He measured also trigonometrically the Peak of Orizava, which the Indians call Sitalteptl; because the luminous exhalations of its crater resemble at a distance a falling star; and respecting the longitude of which M. Ferrer published very exact observations.

After an interesting residence in these countries, where under the shade of the *liquidambar* and *amyris*, are found growing the *epidendrum vanilla* and *convolvulus jalapa*, two productions equally valuable for exportation, our travellers descended towards the coast of Vera Cruz, situated between hills of shifting sand, the reverberation of which causes a suffocating heat; but happily escaped the yellow fever, which prevailed there at that time.

They proceeded in a Spanish frigate to the Havannah, to get the collections and herbs left there in 1800; and, after a stay of two months, embarked for the United States; but they were exposed to great danger in the channel of the Bahamas, from a hurricane which lasted seven days.

After a passage of thirty-two days, they arrived at Philadelphia; remained in that city and in Washington two months; and returned to Europe in August, 1804, by the way of Bourdeaux, with a great number of drawings, thirty-five boxes of collections, and six thousand species of plants.

*For the Monthly Epitome.*

**ABOUT** six years ago, the late Duke of Bedford, Lord Somerville, and a great number of other patrons of agriculture, associated themselves under the title of the SMITHFIELD-CLUB for the purpose of calling the attention of the breeders and graziers, who supply

the great market in Smithfield with fat cattle, to the selection of such breeds or varieties of animals as should be found to yield the greatest quantity of animal food for man, from the produce of a given quantity of land; as also to the best and most economic modes of fattening each kind of animal for market. Several premiums were then offered, which have been annually continued, for the best fat cattle sent in for public sale, on the principal market-day previous to Christmas. The first candidates for these prizes seem somewhat to have mistaken the objects of the club, and to have vied with each other in the monstrous fatness, rather than the economic feeding, of their animals; by which much obloquy unjustly fell on the club and its patriotic members; the conditions of the premiums have been progressively amended each year, so as now to exclude competitors, who, from vanity or other motives, might entertain views different from the laudable ones which actuate the club.

The exhibitions of the cattle have hitherto been held in Mr. Wootton's Inn-yard, Smithfield; but the encreasing numbers who have annually flocked to see them, far beyond the room and accommodations of the yard, have induced the committee this year to exhibit the cattle in Mr. Dixon's City Repository, (where Lord Somerville's March shew of cattle is annually held). William Praed, Esq. and Mr. Giblet, of Bondstreet, are the stewards for the present shew; which commenced on the 12th of December, and was attended by a great number of the most respectable patrons of agriculture.

The five judges of the shew were, Anthony Lechmere, Esq. William Griffin, Esq. and Mr. Wm.

Watkins, graziers; and Mr. Warrington, and Mr. John Lomas, butchers. The prizes were adjudged as follows, viz.

Class 1.—1st Prize—Mr. Westcar, for two Hereford Oxen, grass-fed, bred by Mr. Tulley.

2d Prize—The Duke of Bedford, one half bred Hereford Ox.

Class 2.—1st Prize—Mr. Westcar, two Hereford oxen grass-fed, bred by Mr. Tomkins.

2d Prize—Mr. Pester, two Devon Oxen, bred by Mr. Pester.

Class 3.—Prize—Mr. Joyner, two Highland Stots.

Class 4.—Prize—Duke of Bedford, a Hereford Cow, bred by Mr. Williams, has had six calves.

Class 5.—Prize—Rev. Mr. Plasket, three two-year old long-wooled wether Sheep, bred and fed by him.

Class 6.—Prize—Mr. Tuckwell, three one-year old long-wooled Wethers, bred and fed by him.

Class 7.—Prize—The Duke of Bedford, three one-year old South Down Wethers, bred and fed by him.

Class 8.—Prize—The Duke of Bedford, three two-year old South Down Wethers, bred and fed by him.

Class 9.—Prize—Mr. Pickford, a Pig, eighteen months old, bred and fed by him.

Besides the above, in Class 1, the Duke of Bedford shewed a Hereford Ox, fed on oil cake; in Class 2, Mr. Young shewed two Devon Oxen; in Class 3, the Duke of Bedford two Highland Stots, Mr. Hayward, one Devon Ox; Mr. Westcar, two Devon Oxen; Mr. Webbers, one Devon Ox, bred by Mr. Cridge; Mr. W. Webber, one Devon Ox, bred by Mr. Dickham; Mr. Hobbs, one Devon Ox; in Class 4, the Duke of Bedford, one Cow, between the Indian, French, and Devon, bred by Mr.

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White Parsons; Mr. Monk, one Kentish Cow, bred by him; has had three calves; in Class 5, Mr. Humphreys, three 1-year old long-wooled Wethers, bred and fed by him; Rev. Mr. Wallace, three ditto, bred by Mr. Western; Mr. Oldakers, 3 ditto, bred and fed by him; in Class 6, Mr. Chandler, three 2-years old long-wooled Wethers, bred and fed by him; Rev. Mr. Plasket, three ditto, fed and bred by him; Mr. Oldakers, three ditto, bred and fed by him; Mr. John Westcar, three ditto, bred by Mr. Thos. Westcar; Mr. Parsons, three ditto, fed and bred by him; in Class 7, Mr. H. King, three South-Down 1-year old Wethers, fed by him; Mr. Waters, three ditto, fed by him; in Class 9, Mr. Baker, one Pig, 18 months old, bred and fed by him.

Besides the above, Charles Western, Esq. shewed a very handsome black Pig, and a Boar, the father of it, four-years old: the Marquis of Buckingham a remarkably fat and fine Cow, rising six years old, was bred by him at Stow, from a true long-horned Bull, hired of Richard Astley, Esq. of Adston Hall; this cow was greatly admired, and was estimated by some to weigh 60 score pounds, and is thought not to have been surpassed in fatness and excellence for many years.

The large Hereford Ox, of Mr. Westcar, which gained the first prize, was not less an object of attention to the amateurs, and it was the completest animal ever produced by that distinguished breeder since the first establishment of the shew in 1800. The Duke of Bedford's pens of fat South-down Sheep were not less admired.

The decision of the judges, respecting the long-wooled sheep, was rather objected to, in some of the groups which were collected in

conversation on the subject. Mr. Gibbs, the Seeds-man, shewed samples of twelve of the best natural Grass-seeds, and of Yarrow, a very hardy and useful plant. Mr. Garrad, the Modeller, attended, and took sketches and dimensions of the Marquis of Buckingham's Cow; of the Duke of Bedford's Cow; of the mixed-bred Indian, French, and Devon, bred by Mr. White Parsons; also, of the thorough-bred Highland Scot Ox, bred by the Duchess of Gordon. Mr. Garrad shewed proofs of the engravings of the Duke of Bedford's famous Oakley Bull, and of a Devon Cow, bred by the late Duke of Bedford, shewn at Smithfield in 1802, and slaughtered by Mr. Wase, of Newgate-market.—Mr. Bellamy of Bath, attended with his medicine for the scouring of Cattle. Mr. Pickford shewed some very fine large specimens of Swedish Turnips, brought to keep his fat Heifer,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years old, which has been fed thereon. They were grown on land in Market-Street, Herts, which was lately a common, overgrown with furze.

On the Monday following, the members of this Society dined together at the Freemason's Tavern, the Duke of Bedford in the chair, supported by Lord Somerville, Lord Winchelsea, and a most respectable company of the principal Gentlemen, Farmers, Breeders, Gra-

ziers, and others engaged in the supply of the markets. The Noble Duke, in a short and expressive address, congratulated the company on the progress they had made in the object of their institution, and said that as the value of their plan was now fully ascertained and duly estimated by the public, it was fit that they should no longer limit the numbers of it to 50 members, as it was originally proposed to do, but to make it unlimited. This had been proposed at the last Meeting of the Club at Woburn, and it was now confirmed.

The Noble Duke then read the adjudication of the Prizes—and stated the slight variations that were proposed for those of the next year. It was proposed that there should be an intermediate prize for beasts of from 100 to 140—and that the Candidates for the prizes in the class of Pigs should not be tied down to the article about feeding—but that the two prizes should be given for the best fat pig of any age, and the best fat pig of ten months.

The day was spent with the utmost conviviality. A number of appropriate toasts were given, and Lord Somerville gave an intimation that the Show in March next for the prizes which he had offered, would take place at the same yard, in Barbican, on the 2d and 3d of that month.

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## BIOGRAPHY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

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MEMOIR OF THE LIFE OF LORD  
VISCOUNT NELSON, DUKE OF  
BRONTE, K. B. &c. &c. &c.

[Continued from page 559.]

ON the 30th of November, the same year, the Boreas was paid off at Sheerness, and Captain Nelson retired with his lady, to the par-

sonage house of Burnham Thorpe, which was given up to him by his father, who retired to a house in the neighbourhood. In this privacy Captain Nelson lived amidst a domestic circle of friends, enjoying probably the happiest, though not the most splendid period of his life. But he was born for his country



and for the world, to shine resplendent as a luminary of the first magnitude.

The war which broke out between this country and France, in consequence of the Revolution, again called forth the high talents and undaunted spirit of our brave Commander, who in January 1793 was appointed to the *Agamemnon* of 64 guns, and was soon placed under Admiral Lord Hood in the Mediterranean.

That great man placed such an unbounded confidence in Captain Nelson, that if batteries were to be attacked, if ships were to be cut out of their harbours, if the hazardous landing of troops was to be effected, or difficult passages of navigation were to be explored, Horatio Nelson was the first selected for the post of honour and of danger.

At Toulon, and the victories at Bastia and Calvi in Corsica, his lordship bore ample testimony to the skill and exertions of Nelson. At the siege of the latter place he was stationed at a battery, where he lost his right eye by a cannon shot from the enemy's battery striking against that which he commanded, and driving with great force a quantity of sand in his face.

On Lord Hood's quitting the Mediterranean in October 1794, Admiral, now Lord Hotham assumed the command, who appointed Captain Nelson to act in conjunction with the Austrian General De Vins in Vado Bay, on the Genoese coast. In this service he remained till the month of November, when Admiral Hotham was superseded by Sir John Jervis, who appointed Captain Nelson to wear a broad pendant on board *La Minerve* frigate, with *La Blanche* under his direction. These ships were sent in December 1796 to Porto Ferrajo to bring the naval stores left there to Gibraltar. On the passage the Commodore fell in

with two Spanish frigates which he brought to close action, which lasted three hours, when *La Sabina* of 40 guns and 286 men struck to *La Minerve*. The other, though silenced by *La Blanche*, escaped in the night.

On the 29th of January following, Commodore Nelson sailed from Porto Ferrajo on his return to join Admiral Jervis, having on board his ship Sir Gilbert Elliot, now Lord Minto, with his suite on his return from the viceroyship of Corsica. After touching at Gibraltar he sailed through the straits for his place of destination, and on the 11th of February fell in with the Spanish fleet, by which he was chased. He had, however, the good fortune to escape, and joined Sir John Jervis with the intelligence, and just in time to shift his pendant on board the Captain of 74 guns, before the enemy hove in sight.

In this action, Commodore Nelson particularly distinguished himself by engaging the Spanish Admiral's ship, the *Santissima Trinidad*, a considerable time, and thereby prevented her from rejoining his ships to leeward, which bold manoeuvre occasioned the capture of four large ships of the enemy, two of which, the *San Josef* and the *San Nicolas*, were boarded by Nelson in person, who received the sword of the Spanish Admiral on his quarter-deck. For his important services in this memorable engagement, wherein the Spanish fleet consisted of twenty-seven sail of the line, and the British of only fifteen, the Commodore was created a Knight of the Bath, and soon after, made a Rear Admiral of the blue.

In May following, he shifted his flag from the Captain to the *Theusus*, and was appointed to the command of the inner squadron at the blockade of Cadiz. In this service he was attacked when on board his

barge with his usual boat's crew of ten-men, by the commander of the Spanish gun boats, Don Miguel Tyrasson, in a barge rowed by twenty-six oars, having thirty men. The contest was long and doubtful, being fought hand to hand. The British Admiral was evidently the object of their furious attack; but his life was repeatedly saved by his brave and faithful Cockswain Sykes, who mortally wounded his adversaries, and at length, the Spaniards were obliged to yield.

In July, Sir Horatio Nelson was detached with a small squadron against Santa Cruz, in the Island of Teneriffe. On his arrival before the place, he effected a landing of one thousand men, and gained possession of the town, but being unable to take the citadel, it was deemed advisable to retreat, which the Spaniards readily permitted them to do. In this disastrous enterprise, Sir Horatio lost his arm by a cannon-shot; and when weltering in his blood, was carried by his brave son-in-law, Captain Nesbitt, on his back to the boat amidst a tremendous fire from the batteries.

The consequences of this accident had been nearly fatal, and the Admiral was under the necessity of submitting to a second amputation near the shoulder.

This misfortune obliged the gallant admiral to repair to England, where he was introduced to his majesty, who tenderly condoled with him on his loss, and expressed his concern that from the enfeebled state of his health his country might be deprived of his services. Ever memorable and glorious was his reply: "May it please your Majesty, I can never think that a loss which the performance of my duty has occasioned, and as long as I have a foot to stand on, I shall fight for my King and Country."

At the close of 1797, he received

a pension of one thousand pounds a year, previous to which he presented, according to custom, a memorial of his services, which is, as follows;

*"To the King's most excellent Majesty, the Memorial of Sir Horatio Nelson, K. B. and a Rear Admiral in your Majesty's fleet.*

"That during the present war, your memorialist has been in four actions with the fleets of the enemy; viz. on the 13th and 14th of March 1795, on the 13th of July 1795, and on the 14th of February 1797; in three actions with frigates; in six engagements against batteries; in ten actions in boats, employed in cutting out of harbours, in destroying vessels, and in taking three towns. Your memorialist has also served on shore four months, and commanded the batteries at the sieges of Bastia and Calvi. That, during the war; he assisted at the capture of seven sail of the line, six frigates, four corvettes, and eleven privateers of different sizes: and taken and destroyed near fifty merchant vessels: and your memorialist has actually been engaged against the enemy upwards of one hundred and twenty times. In which service your memorialist has lost his right eye and arm, and been severely wounded and bruised in the body, All of which services and wounds, your memorialist most humbly submits to your Majesty's most gracious consideration."

April 9th, 1798, Sir Horatio sailed with a convoy for Lisbon, and on the 29th he joined Earl St. Vincent before Cadiz.

The French were at this time fitting out a powerful armament at Toulon, the destination of which was unknown. The British admiral however had intelligence of their being in a state of forwardness, and therefore on the arrival of Sir Horatio Nelson his lordship instantly

detached him to watch the enemy's motions.

On the 9th of May the squadron sailed from Gibraltar, but the ships were dispersed in a gale of wind on the 22d, which was the very day that the French fleet under Buonaparte sailed from Toulon. When the British ships were collected and joined by a reinforcement often sail of the line, Sir Horatio proceeded in quest of the enemy. After exploring a considerable part of the Mediterranean, he learnt that the French had landed and taken Malta, on which he pushed for that island, but found that the objects of his pursuit had sailed from thence. Judging that they must have steered for Egypt, he shaped his course in that direction, and on the 29th of June he arrived off Alexandria, but to his mortification found no signs of the French on that coast.

This disappointment did not abate his ardour; but he immediately sailed for Sicily, where he took in a supply of water, and having ascertained that the enemy had not gone down the Mediterranean, he again steered for the Egyptian coast, and at noon in the 1st of August came off the harbour of Alexandria; and the French fleet consisting of sixteen ships, were discovered moored in line in the bay of Aboukir, and flanked by batteries, gunboats, and mortar vessels, in a most formidable manner.

Notwithstanding the great superiority of the enemy, both in force and situation, the gallant admiral made signal for battle; and rightly considering that where the enemy's ships had room to swing, the British would be able to anchor, he accordingly gave directions for part of his ships to pass inside, while the Vanguard which bore his flag, and some others passed down the other side of the French line, which was

thus placed between two fires. Never was a naval fight maintained with more determined valour; but the skill and intrepidity of the British seamen prevailed, and out of this whole force only two of the enemy's line of battle ships and two frigates escaped. Eight were taken, and two ships of the line, one of which was *L' Orient* of 120 guns, Admiral Brue, the Commander in chief, were burnt.

This glorious exploit completely ruined the designs of Buonaparte upon Egypt, and of course proved of the most essential service to the East India Company, by saving their possessions, which doubtless formed a principal object of the restless Corsican's ambition and avarice. The battle of the Nile not only diffused joy over the British empire, but spread the fame of the victory throughout the civilised world. At home he received the thanks of parliament, was created a peer by the title of Baron Nelson of Burnham Thorpe, an annuity of 2000*l.* was vested in him by the house of commons, and the East India Company presented him with 10,000 pounds. Abroad, the Grand Signior sent him a complimentary epistle, with a chelengk or plume of triumph, consisting of diamonds, together with a pelise of great value. He likewise ordered a purse of two thousand sequins to be distributed amongst the British seamen who were wounded in the battle. From the Grand Signior's mother his lordship received a rose set with diamonds; from the emperor Paul of Russia, a letter accompanied with a portrait set with brilliants; from the king of Sardinia a letter, and a box set with diamonds, and from the inhabitants of the isle of Zante a gold-headed sword and cane.

[*To be continued.*]

## ADVERSARIA:

*Literary, Philosophical, and Miscellaneous.*

## LITERARY.

**P**IERRE F. McCALLUM Esq. author of *Travels in Trinidad*, is at present writing an answer to Lord Selkirk's observations on the emigration of the Highlanders of Scotland to North America. Mr. McCallum is lately returned from visiting the different settlements already formed by the Highlanders on that continent, and strongly reprobates his lordship's unfortunate mania in holding out to the rest of the Highlanders, the baneful torch of delusion, encouraging them to emigrate to the far end of the creation; aiming at the total destruction of that great nursery of the bravest soldiers in his Majesty's service, without any benefit to the emigrant.

A most valuable collection of oriental manuscripts, to the number of 15,000 volumes, in the three principal languages of the east, the Arabian, Persian, and Sanscrit, were brought to England by the last ship from Bengal. They are the property of Major Ousley, brother of the celebrated orientalist Sir William Ousley, whose situation as aid-de-camp to the Nabob of Oude, afforded him great opportunities for making collections of this kind; and his acquisitions joined to those of Sir William, already the owner of 800 Arabic, Persian, and Turkish manuscripts, will form the most splendid collection of the sort at present to be found in Europe. Besides those valuable volumes, there is a numerous collection of objects in natural history and mineralogy, with a great number of botanical paintings finished in the most accurate manner. The number of monuments is also great; together with several large port folios containing mythological paintings

of high antiquity, and splendidly illuminated: the whole collected from all parts of Hindostan, Thibet, Tartary, China, Birmah, Ceylon, &c. A collection of idols of stone, metal, wood and other materials, a cabinet of medals, gems, and other antiques; a complete series of other coins struck by Mahometan princes since the days of Timour; and specimens of the armour, horse-furniture, and all the weapons used in Persia, Hindostan and other countries, form part of this superb assemblage; which is completed by a series of drawings and views of different parts of India; various musical instruments; and several hundred tunes set to music by the Major himself, from the mouths of Persian, Cashmerian, and Indian singers. The lords of the treasury, in the most polite and liberal manner, exempted this valuable collection from the usual duties; and their example was followed by the gentlemen of the Custom and India Houses through whose hands it passed. We hope that, by and by, the literary world will reap much gratification from the united stores of the Major and his brother.

Dr. TYTLER, who had completed a translation of Silius Italicus which was lost for some time during his residence at the Capo of Good Hope, but which was afterwards found again, in a mutilated state, has lately been employed in transcribing, comparing with the original, and correcting the whole. He completed the whole of this tedious operation, with an Index, Commentary and a preface, in May last, and consequently the public may we hope by and by expect its appearance. It will be further enriched by an account of Hannibal's passage

across the Alps, communicated to Dr. T. by General MELVILLE from actual observation in 1775.

A splendid edition of *Giraldus Cambrensis*, by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart. may be expected during the course of the ensuing spring. The curious Itinerary through Wales, by Bishop Baldwin, which was undertaken by command of Henry II. for the purpose of forwarding the crusades, contains the details of his journey, and of the various incidents which occurred during his mission, committed to writing by Giraldus, one of his companions. To it, he has also added, a description of Wales, in two books, explaining the topography of the country, and the manners and customs of its inhabitants: the whole will, in the present work, be for the first time submitted to the public in an English dress; illustrated by numerous annotations; by a map of the tour of the crusaders; by thirty-one views, drawn from nature by Sir Richard, and engraved by Mr. Byrne; by plans of the Cathedral Churches of Maudaff and St. David's; by portraits of Rhys, Prince of South Wales, and of the author Giraldus; and by many other architectural and monumental antiquities drawn by Carter, and engraved by Basire: the work will also comprehend, a life of the author; and an introduction to the history of Wales, prior to the date of the Itinerary, in which all the Roman stations hitherto discovered, will be particularly described.—The public may also, at the same time, expect a republication of a small impression of the Latin edition of the Itinerary and description of Wales, with the annotations of Dr. Powel; with the book *De Illustrabilibus Wallie*, by Giraldus, omitted in every previous edition of his works.

Mr. CAPPER of the Secretary of State's office, has commenced the

compilation of a new Topographical Dictionary of England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and the British Isles in general, from official, and other authentic documents, on an entire new plan. It will contain, besides the more interesting information given in other works of the kind, the following additional matter. 1. Each place will be distinguished as a Tything, Hamlet, Township, Parish, Market-town, Borough, or City; 2. The parish will be specified wherein each hamlet or township is situated; 3. The hundred as well as county, will be named wherein each place is situated; 4. The nearest post or other town, to each place, and the distance therefrom as well as the distance from London will be given; 5. Rectories, Vicarages, or Curacies, will be distinguished, and their value in the King's books, given; 6. All perpetual presentations will be noticed; 7. The number of houses and inhabitants in each place will be stated accurately. The whole will be compiled and corrected, by the most accurate and recent county histories, authentic reports, and surveys, and will contain upwards of one thousand names, not mentioned, or the name only given, in other works of the kind. It will at once answer every purpose of the local histories, for description, antiquities, curiosities, &c., and will combine every use of the various books of roads, travelling companions, *Liber Regis*, &c. The situation of the author under government, and the constant practice of making returns of this kind, must enable him to collect a store of authentic information, not otherwise to be acquired.

The celebrated lecturer on Eloquence Mr. THELWALL, having delivered a patriotic effusion on the late glorious victory to several crowded audiences at Liverpool, which was received with approbation; he



proposes to publish the same, under the title of the "Trident of Albion"; to which he proposes to add an Oration on the Influence of Elocution in kindling Martial Enthusiasm, with an address to the shade of Nelson.

Mr. THOMAS HUNT of Harleston in Norfolk proposes to publish by subscription, in one Volume octavo, a new Edition, with Revisions, of the celebrated TUSSEY's five hundred Points of Husbandry, as practised in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and originally printed in 1562.

The first volume of CENSURA LITERARIA has just made its appearance.

This work is intended principally as an Imitation of the Plan of Oldys' British Librarian, combined with those of Sir Thomas Pope Blount in his Censura Authorum Celebriorum, 1690, and the late Lord Orford in his Miscellaneous Antiquities. There being many Reviews of new Books; but none of those which lie buried in Libraries, and deserve to be rescued from oblivion; the present Publication, proposes to give Titles and Characters of English Works of all Ages, and their Authors, whether distinguished for their Scarcity, or their Merit; interspersed with original Disquisitions, and Literary Biography.

A DISSERTATION ON THE PROPHECIES, that have been fulfilled, are now fulfilling, or will hereafter be fulfilled, relative to the great Period of 1260 Years; the Papal and Mahomedan Apostasies; the tyrannical Reign of Antichrist, or the Infidel Power; and the Restoration of the Jews. By GEORGE STANLEY FABER, B. D. Vicar of Stockton-upon-Tees, will shortly make its appearance in two octavo volumes.

Mr. MOORE, Fellow of the College of Surgeons, is preparing a reply to the Anti-Vaccinists, in 2 Vol. 8vo.

The Beauties of Liverpool, or a Picturesque History of that flourishing Seaport, in a quarto volume, is in the press. It is compiled by Mr. John Corry, author of the Satirical View of London, in conjunction with Mr. George Perry, whose late father was, for several years, engaged in collecting documents for a similar work. The first part of this intended elegant publication is expected to make its appearance in January.

An octavo volume of Sermons, translated from the French of the celebrated BOURDALOUE, will speedily be published.

Mr. EDMUND TURNER's History of Grantham, a large quarto volume, will appear early in January.

Mr. CHARNOCK, author of Biographia Navalis, is preparing Memoirs of the Life of the late Lord Nelson.

Mr. HEWSON CLARKE of Gateshead has in preparation, a volume consisting of the numbers of a periodical paper, lately published in Newcastle: it may be expected in about a month.

The Sermons of Bishop TAYLOR having been abridged, adapted to the present state of the public, and to the use of families, by a clergyman of the diocese of York, may be expected by and by in six volumes, octavo.

A new and corrected edition of Mr. BUCK's Theological Dictionary may be expected during the ensuing year.

Mr. OLINTHUS GREGORY's extensive work on Mechanics, Theoretical, Practical, and Descriptive, may shortly be expected to appear.

Letters to a young Lady by Mrs. WEST, will presently make their appearance.

Mrs. ORIE's Simple Tales are in a considerable state of forwardness, and may be expected by and by.

The sixth volume of Dr. SWAN'S

general Zoology, will be published by and by: it will, like the preceding ones, appear in two parts, and is unusually abundant in plates.

The first edition of Mr. RUPPON's interesting work on landscape gardening, having been nearly all engaged by the subscribers, a new one may be shortly expected to appear.

A new edition of ALSTON's hints on landscape painting is in the press.

A celebrated work from the French of CAMUAS is in the press, and will form a desirable acquisition to those mechanics employed in constructing machinery: it is on the best form for the teeth of wheels of all kinds, a circumstance of no little importance to the practical mechanist; if we consider the immense loss of powder arising from friction in engines of every kind.

MRS. BRYAN of Blackheath, author of a treatise on astronomy, is now printing an elegant quarto volume of her lectures on natural philosophy, illustrated by plates. It will be published by subscription in the course of the ensuing spring.

A new edition of FOSTER's essays with many additions is in the press.

Professor VINCE, has nearly completed the third volume of his astronomy.

Mr. KOLLMANN's treatise on musical harmony may be expected in the course of a month: it will extend to a folio volume.

Mr. DALLAWAY, author of "Anecdotes of the arts in England" is printing a work entitled "observations on English architecture," the object of which is to give a general and comprehensive view of ancient military structures in this kingdom, and a comparison of modern build-

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ings, with those of a similar style on the continent.

An interesting volume of the late Mr. STRUTT, author of several ingenious works on the dress and manners of our English ancestors, is preparing for publication.

Dr. JACKSON will shortly publish the first part of "Practical observations on the Febrile Diseases of Gibraltar," which so fatally prevailed at that place during the autumn of 1804.

A History of Ireland, by the Rev. J. GORDON, author of the history of the late rebellion in that kingdom, will shortly make its appearance.

A new edition of Dr. WOODVILLE's Medical Botany may be expected to commence publication on the first of January: it will appear in Numbers, 55 of which, in octavo, will complete the work.

SIR GEORGE LINDSAY's works announced in one of our former numbers, will shortly appear, edited by Mr. GEORGE CHALMERS.

A second collection of letters to a young clergyman by the Rev. JOSEPH ORTON is nearly ready for publication.

Dialogues in Chemistry, by the author of Scientific Dialogues, are expected to appear the beginning of March. These may be regarded as a sequel to the Scientific Dialogues, and with them will form a complete and interesting course of natural experimental philosophy and chemistry.

A new edition of Mr. HARMER's Observations on divers passages of Scripture, collected chiefly from books of Voyages and Travels into the East: with the view of explaining its different passages, will appear in January.

A volume of Treatises on Religious Subjects; by the late Rev. ROBERT HOLMES, D. D. dean of

Winchester, and Editor of the Collection of the Septuagint Version, will shortly be published by Subscription.

Mr. MOORE, the well known translator of the odes of Anacreon, will publish early in the ensuing month, a quarto volume of Epistles, Odes, and other Poems, written chiefly during an absence of fourteen months from England.

Mr. KNIGHT has just published a second edition of his Analytical Inquiry into the Principles of Taste.

A new volume of Public Characters, for 1806, has just made its appearance, and forms the eighth of that entertaining Biographical Miscellany.

Mrs. TRIMMER has just published a Comparative View of the New Plan of Education promulgated by Mr. Joseph Lancaster, in his Tracts concerning the Instruction of the Children of the Labouring Part of the Community; and of the System of Christian Education founded by our pious Forefathers, for the Initiation of the Members of the Established Church in the Principles of the Reformed Religion: it will be dedicated to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

#### PHILOSOPHICAL.

Mr. HATCHETT whose indefatigable researches into the chemical properties of animal and other substances are well known, has lately discovered the principle, on one analogous to it, called by the French chemists *tannin*, to be contained in or that it may be produced, by exposing carbonaceous substances, whether vegetable, animal, or mineral to the action of the nitric acid. He has in consequence succeeded in converting skin into leather by means of materials which must appear extraordinary to professional men, such as deal saw-dust, as phaltum, common-turpentine, pitcoal, waxcandle, and a piece of the same

sort of skin. "Allowing therefore," says Mr. Hatchett, "that the production of this substance must for the present be principally regarded as a curious chemical fact, and not altogether an unimportant one, yet, as the principle on which it is founded appears to be developed; we may hope that a more economical process will be discovered, so that every tanner may be enabled to prepare his leather even from the refuse of his own materials." The accession of new and useful facts daily furnished by the labours of chemists, are sure indications of the infant state of the science, and we doubt not but their efforts, though hitherto directed to the first or rudimentary principles of science, will at one time present us with means of increasing the comforts of man at little or no expence.

Mr. WOOLF has lately made some great improvements in the steam engine, whereby the saving of fuel is considerably increased, and the danger of explosion effectually prevented. If steam be sufficiently expanded to counterbalance the pressure of the external atmosphere, it is well known that the engine will work, as happens in the case of steam sent into the common steam or piston barrel in the common engine. Mr. Woolf has discovered that a fortieth part of common steam, expanded forty times as much, will still work the engine.

The following process for obtaining pure cobalt, is from the *Annales de Chimie*, and is given by M. TROMSDORF.—Mix intimately four parts of the zaffre, well pulverised, with one part of nitrate of pot-ash, and a half part of powdered charcoal; throw this mixture by little and little into a red-hot crucible, and repeat the operation three times, adding a new quantity of the pot-ash and charcoal each time, to the residuum. The mass resulting from these various detonations must af-

terwards be mixed with one of black flux, and exposed to a red heat, in a crucible for the space of an hour: the result is, that the iron contained in the cobalt oxidates itself strongly; and the acidified arsenic combines with the potash.

Wash this mass when pulverized, and by filtration separate the new formed arseniate of pot-ash from the insoluble residuum containing the cobalt, heat the latter with nitric acid, which dissolves the cobalt without attacking the iron, which is carried to its maximum of oxidation. Evaporate the solution to dryness—re-dissolve the residuum in nitric acid, and filter the solution to ascertain the last portions of oxide iron, which may have escaped the first operation. All that is further necessary, is to decompose the nitrate of cobalt by potash, to wash the precipitate, and to reduce it to the metallic state by heat.

On the eighth of December a comet, equal in light to a star of the fourth magnitude, with a large *coma*, but no *nucleus* or tail, was observed, at the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, to pass the meridian at 6 deg. 24 min. 7 sec. mean time; with right ascension, 353 dec. 6 min. 54 sec. and declination 23 deg. 41 min. 14 sec. South, discovered by Mr. FIRMINGER, the Assistant, a little before. The same was discovered by Dr. HERSCHELL, at Slough, near Windsor, about the same time. It could not be seen the following evening, though clear; probably having gone to the Southward with a quick enough motion, to carry it into the horizontal vapours, or below the horizon.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The LONDON INSTITUTION, for its temporary accommodation, has taken the spacious mansion in the Old Jewry, once occupied by Mr. Sharpe the surgeon, and others,

where a valuable collection of books already procured is now putting up. The library and reading rooms are proposed to be opened to the subscribers on the first day of the year 1806.

The Celtic Academy at Paris has lately submitted to the test an ingenious contrivance of one of its members, which communicates the faculty of corresponding and conversing with persons of whose language you are entirely ignorant, without any preliminary study, and without any expence, embarrassment, or the least mental exertion. It was tried by twenty-five academicians on the European languages; and this trial demonstrated, that, by means of this discovery, a person may travel in any country without an interpreter, ask for every thing he wants, converse on any interesting subject, and even express metaphysical ideas. This process is intended to be made public.

It is proposed to erect a monument in honour of LORD NELSON, on the CALTON HILL, Edinburgh; a rustic tower, of the height, at least, of 100 feet, and of a proportionable breadth, on the site of the present signal staff, having convenient stairs in the interior, to lead to the top, from whence the signals are to be repeated, as at present. The upper part of the tower to be fitted up with proper accommodations for a single officer. The under part to be divided into five or more small cabins, for the reception of deserving seamen; and the first preference to be given to those who have been wounded in battle with Lord Nelson. In addition to this, flags to be provided and put in charge of the signal officer, with the names, in large characters, of Nelson, and all our other Naval Heroes who have gained great victories within a certain period.

To assist the maintenance of the

seamen, a small fee to be taken at the gate, from all visitors; and from the situation being admitted to command one of the finest views in Europe, a sufficient fund for this laudable purpose might be depended on. It is understood that from 1500*l.* to 2000*l.* would fully answer. And we are happy to hear, that a considerable sum is already subscribed.

A Meeting was held at the Royal Exchange, Dublin, November 30th, and resolutions entered into, for erecting a monument in that city to the memory of LORD NELSON; they were moved by JOHN LATOUCHE, jun. Esq. and seconded by ROBERT SHAW, Esq. 1,200*l.* was subscribed at the Meeting; at the head of the list are the Right Hon. DAVID LATOUCHE, and Co. and the other Bankers of that City, the County Members, the Lord Mayor, and JOHN KNOX Grogan, Esq.

CHARTER HOUSE SCHOOL. Yesterday being the anniversary, or oration day of this school, the usual annual ceremonies were observed, according to the charter. At two o'clock divine service was performed in the Charter House Chapel, and a very excellent sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Law, brother to Lord Ellenborough, at which were present the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Ellenborough, Mr. Justice Le Blanc, Mr. Baron Sutton, and a great number of the Nobility and Gentry, Governors of this very ancient establishment.

After which, they repaired to the Great Hall, which was fitted up for the purpose, with a rostrum in the centre, for the orator of the day; and benches erected, at either side, for the accommodation of the poor Brothers, the Scholars and the junior Governors and

Stewards; and, at the head of the Hall, sat the Archbishop of Canterbury, as senior Governor, the Head-master of the School, Lord Ellenborough, the Resident Chaplain, Master, &c.—Master Crowe, the head boy, or Captain of the School, delivered an appropriate Oration in Latin, which received the greatest applause; after which the several Governors gave the usual donation to the orator, and they, as well as the scholars, partook of a sumptuous entertainment prepared for the occasion.

For several years there has not been known so full an attendance of Governors and other Officers.

The Right Hon. Lord HOLLAND, and the Hon. THOMAS GRENVILLE, who had been previously elected, were lately admitted Fellows of the Antiquarian Society. There was afterwards a ballot for the election of a Member of the Council, in the room of the late ALEXANDER AUBERT, Esq. when CRAVEN ORD, Esq. F. R. S. was unanimously chosen.

Mr. WEBB, mine-agent to His Royal Highness the Prince of WALES, has discovered a most valuable copper-mine, in the Tamer River, which divides the counties of Devon and Cornwall. This mine was set to work the 9th of September last, and a rich vein of copper ore four feet wide, was cut in a steep hill, nearly 50 fathom from the river, which promises to make one of the finest mines ever discovered in either country; as it resembles the famous Anglesea mine, not having either wick, windlass, or any thing but a wheel-barrow to take out the ore. The cost to the proprietors did not exceed thirty pounds.

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### FOREIGN LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

#### AUSTRIA.

The chief medaller and mint en-

graver of Prague, Anthony Gille-mard, lately struck two medals in



honour of a visit the Emperor Francis II. and the Archduke Charles paid to that city. On one of them is the effigy of the emperor, with the following legend: *FRANZ, II. BOEM. KAIS. ZU HUN. UND BOEHM. ERZH. ZU. OEST. Francis II. King of Hungary and Bohemia, duke of Austria.* On the other side, the emperor is represented on horseback, fronting his armies; and below is a camp, with the following inscription, *IN FRIEDEN MILD. ZUM KAMPFE STETS GERUSTET*; the import of which is, *gentle in peace, always ready for war.* On the exergue, *WIBURGLATER DEY PRAG. 1804.* camp of exercise near Prague, 1804.—The other medal bears on one side the effigy of the Archduke Charles, with his head covered with a helmet, surrounded by the Bohemian lion; who bears a wreath of oak. The inscription is *CAR. LUD. AUST. BOEH. SERVATOR, CHARLES LOUIS, PRESERVER of Austria and Bohemia.* On the other side is seen on a table, the crown of Bohemia, with the sceptre, and the arms of that realm: behind the table is a pile of arms symbolic of peace, which is more clearly pointed out by a rainbow, and a dove bearing an olive branch, flying towards them. In the foreground below, are fruit trees in flower and fruitful fields; above is *VIRTUTE BELLICA, SAPIENTIA CIVICA, PAX, REDUCTA.* Few people, we apprehend, will fail to appreciate the military knowledge, the manly virtue, and unsullied character of this estimable prince; and we are glad to behold the attempts of his countrymen to perpetuate them to posterity, on materials more solid than the fragile materials the historian can boast of.

## DENMARK.

The celebrated CANOVA, having sent a bust of PERSEUS as a present to the academy of painting, sculp-

ture, and architecture at Copenhagen, he was in consequence elected a member of that society.

The adjutant general DE REIS, has lately invented an instrument, which he calls *topognomon*, by the aid of which a person may light himself in the darkest night, so as to ascertain the situation, &c. of any thing he shall chuse.

Professor PORTAL, member of the National Institute of France, and Mr. REID of Halle, have been nominated corresponding members of the academy of sciences at Copenhagen.

## FRANCE.

The prefect of the department of the Seine has lately presented two medals to the imperial cabinet and library, struck in gold and silver, on occasion of the feasts of the coronation at the Hotel de Ville.—The one two inches and a half in diameter, contains, on one side the head of the emperor crowned, with the legend *NAPOLEON IMPERATOR*; on the other, he is placed on a curule chair, on a stage a little elevated, crowned with laurel, and in his left hand he holds a sceptre terminated by a globe surmounted by the imperial eagle, its wings spread, and bearing thunder in its claws. Opposite him is the city of Paris under the figure of a female, in long vestments, crowned by the mural coronet, and stretching her arms towards the emperor. Behind her on the right of the field, is a vessel conducted by a genius. In the upper part, and between the city and the emperor is a star of five points, in the centre of which is the letter N, below is the following legend: *TUTELA PRESENS.* On the exergue; *ERULUM SOLEMNE IMPERATORIS IN CURIA URBANI. FRIM. A. XIII.* The reverse was engraved by *M. Jaffroy*, from designs by *M. Prudhom*: the die for the head, by *M. Galle*.

The other medal is an inch and

a half in diameter; on one side the heads of the emperor and empress united, the former crowned with laurel, the latter with a diadem and ornamented with a collar of stars of five points. The two names, NAPOLEON and JOSEPHINE, placed in the right and left of the field, form the whole legend.—The reverse presents the imperial eagle with his wings expanded though reposing, and holding in his talons branches of laurel, olive, and oak. The legend which occupies the superior part of the field is the following: *Fixa Perennis in alto sedes.* On the exergue *Fêtes du couronnement, données à l'Hôtel-de-Ville.* An. xiii. Both sides of this medal are engraved by M. Brenel.

M. ALIBERT has lately been presented by Lamegrin, senior physician of the hospital of Versailles, with the foot of a woman, who died at sixty years of age, the nails of which are elongated in an extraordinary manner. That of the great toe is more especially longer than the rest, it is curved, extends over the surface of the foot, and perfectly resembles the horn of a ram. M. Alibert has caused a drawing of it to be made for the purpose of giving a figure of it in his grand work on diseases of the skin, of which those of the nails are to form an appendage.

## ITALY.

A dissertation on the *Tullian prison* has lately made its appearance at ROME, from the pen of an advocate, LEONARDO ADONII, and under the auspices of the celebrated cardinal Borgia. It is entitled *Richercha intorno al sito preciso del Carcere Tulliano, dell avvocato Leonardo Adonii Romano professore di S. Scrittura nella Università del Collegio romano, dedicate all eminente principe il Signore Card. Stefano Borgia.* Roma Stamperia Luigi Salbrioni, 4 to. This work

abounds in new ideas, and its object is to prove the Tullian prison to be the same as the Mamertine, contrary to the opinion of M. CANCELLARI.

M. CALCANI of NAPLES, has lately discovered a medal belonging to the town of Petra in Sicily, as is proved by the legend *IIETPEINON*. On one side is a head of Hercules, and on the other a female in an upright posture with her elbow resting on a small column. The same gentleman is at present printing a grand work, on the coins of the ancient kings and princes of Sicily, in which he has thrown great light on this interesting subject.

The celebrated antiquary, LAN-DOLINI of Syracuse, of whom so respectable a character is given in the travels of BARTEL and SUEVE, has lately been employed in making excavations in different parts, and has been rewarded for his toil by discovering a beautiful *Venus Andromene*, in a high state of preservation.

M. PATRUNI, who has been intrusted with the excavations at *Ostia*, has discovered a statue of the *Tiber* sitting, which has been purchased by the pope for 5000 sequins.

Some pains have lately been taken in clearing the arch of Constantine from the surrounding earth, in a similar manner as has been done with that of Septimius Severus. In an excavation of the baths of Dioclesian, a *Venus* has been discovered which is judged to be of great value.

The celebrated CANOVA has been employed on a sitting statue of her Imperial highness, the emperor's (French) mother.

## GERMANY.

The interest which has lately been apparent amongst the inhabitants of Dresden, with respect

to the progress of the arts and sciences, increases every year, many literary societies having already been formed which are shortly to be augmented, by a literary establishment, apparently on the same plan of our Royal and London Institutions. This establishment, which cannot be said to be entirely new, as it actually existed previously to the present alteration in its plan, as a museum, which instead of being open to every person will now require a small entrance fee; besides the various German and French journals already to be found there, it also possesses several distinguished English ones, such as the *Monthly Magazine*, the *Literary Journal*, the *Repertory of Arts*, the *Oracle*, &c. and the proprietor proposes farther to augment them by the addition of many other respectable French ones. The number of German political journals possessed by the Institution amounts to twenty-one, that of literary journals to twelve, the gazettes of the different German states to sixty, the number of the various French journals is eleven, and of the English ones four; and they are straining every nerve to procure the various ones of Italy. It also contains all the new publications, the voyages and travels, pamphlets and other literary novelties. The Dictionaries, Grammars, and Lexicons of all the languages of Europe, have a separate apartment assigned to them; as also have the Maps and Charts. In one of the large side rooms, are instruments of music, the objects

of art, and mechanical instruments for the use of the subscribers; the present director is M. ARNOLD.

#### PRUSSIA.

A Society has lately been established at Berlin, for the purpose of sending Missionaries to Africa, more especially into that part of it inhabited by the Negroes. The object of these missionaries is to disseminate the light of Christianity, the sciences, and the arts of civilization: two of them are already departed for the coast of Guinea.

#### SWEDEN.

A young theologian, BROGMAN, who has already distinguished himself by two respectable dissertations, the one on Swedish poetry, and the other on public education, has undertaken a tour by order of the king of Sweden, for the purpose of visiting public schools, and other public establishments: he has already been at Vienna, where he inspected the principal ones, and proceeded in furtherance of his design from that place to Leipzig.

#### RUSSIA.

M. BERGMAN, a Livonian minister, already well known as the author of a tour and residence amongst the Calmucs, which is held in high estimation by his countrymen; was lately preparing to undertake a new tour amongst the countries of Upper Asia, so little known at the present day. The ability, and knowledge of the languages of the people he is about to visit, possessed by this gentleman promises the happiest results from his undertaking.

### THE FINE ARTS.

Mr. ACKERMAN has issued proposals for publishing by subscription in the course of the ensuing month an Emblematical Monument, in Commemoration of the im-

mortal Lord Nelson. The Vignette designed by UWIN, and engraved by CARBON, represents a Monument supported by Eagles, as Emblems of Victory, with the Portrait of the

deceased Hero in Bass Relief, surmounted by an Urn, containing his Ashes, over which a Female Figure is weeping. The British Lion and Gallic Cock, with the Sphynx and Pyramids, are intended to commemorate the memorable Victory which our gallant Admiral obtained on the Shores of Egypt and Trafalgar, while the Trophies and Shipping in the distance, indicate that he might fairly claim the Sovereignty of the Ocean.

A biographical Sketch of his short but glorious Life, his numerous and brilliant Victories, &c. will be beautifully engraved by Girtin.—The size of the plate will be 23 Inches by 15.

Mr. BOWYER, well known as the proprietor of the Historic Gallery, about to be disposed of by way of Lottery, has lately had a couple of engravings, of LORD NELSON and COLLINGWOOD, executed by a first rate artist, and ornamented with appropriate emblematical designs by SMIRKE; which he intends presenting to every past, present, or future purchaser of a single ticket in his grand undertaking. The engravings are made from miniature paintings of both the noble commanders by Mr. BOWYER; that of Lord Nelson, at a recent period. The purchasers of tickets will alone be able to procure them, the proprietor not chusing to distribute them in any other manner.

Royal Jennerian Society for the extermination of the Small Pox.

At a quarterly general court, held at the Central House, No. 14, Salisbury-square, on Wednesday, Dec. 4, 1805, BENJAMIN TRATERS, Esq. V. P. in the Chair, A Report of the Board of Directors and Medical Council was presented, by which it appears that One thousand Five Hundred and Eighty Persons have been vaccinated at the Central House, and other stations of the Society, within the last three

months, and that the total number inoculated since 1803, was Eighteen Thousand Seven Hundred and Six. Five thousand One Hundred and Twenty-three Charges of the Vaccine Matter had also been transmitted from the Central House alone, to various parts of the British Empire and foreign places. Hence it might be inferred, that the deserved estimation which the discovery of Dr. Jenner had attained in the public mind, has not been impaired, notwithstanding the many unfavourable reports so industriously circulated to its prejudice. These reports having been investigated with great diligence and attention by a large Committee of Inquiry, appointed by the Medical Council, had been found (with a very few exceptions) to be the gross misrepresentations of a few opponents of the Vaccine Practice, with the intention of misleading the public opinion, and exciting distrust in this inestimable discovery. The examination of this subject has tended to confirm the high opinion of its efficacy, by ascertaining that, considering the immense numbers who have been vaccinated, the occurrences of failure are very rare indeed, and that Inoculation for the Small Pox is equally liable to similar exceptions.

The Report also states the afflicting circumstance of Nine Hundred and Fifty Persons having been destroyed in London, by the Small Pox, within the last three months—a calamity which they attribute to the renewed and greatly increased practice of inoculating this dreadful disease. And it concludes with expressing the hope that some efficient measures would be speedily adopted towards checking the progress of so fatal a pestilence. Signed, by Order of the Board of Directors,

CHARLES MURRAY,  
Secretary.

## OBITUARY.

*Further Particulars of the Rev. Dr. Holmes.* See p. 612.

HE was of New College, Oxford, H. M. A. 1774, B. D. 1787, D. D. 1789, and Dean of Winchester, 1804, and was appointed professor of poetry in the university of Oxford on the death of Dr. Warton, 1790. In 1795 he published a Latin epistle to Bishop Barrington, respecting the collation of the MSS. of the version of the Seventy of the Old Testament, which had been begun seven years before, and which occupied his attention from 1788 till his death, with a specimen of the MS. of Genesis in the Imperial library at Vienna in blue and silver capitals of the second or fifth centuries. The delegates of the university press agreed to allow him forty pounds a year for three years, "on his exhibiting to them his collations annually, to be deposited in the Bodleian library, and when the whole is finished to be printed at the university press at his expence, and for his benefit, or of his assigns, if he shall live to complete his collations; or if they are left imperfect, they were to be at the discretion of the delegates, they undertaking to promote the finishing of them to the best of their power, and to publish them when finished, allowing to his assigns a just proportion of the profits. Thus encouraged, and aided by a handsome annual subscription, he printed the whole of the Pentateuch in 5 vols. folio, price twelve guineas, at the rate of three for each volume being subscribed for one copy. Among the subscribers were, the Archbishop of Canterbury, 18 English and 2 Irish bishops, 19 deans; the university of Oxford 12 copies; the university of Cambridge 3 copies; of Dublin, 2; of Glasgow 1; 14 colleges at Oxford, those of the King's at Cambridge, and Eton and Sion; the Dukes of Portland, Grafton, and Marlborough; others of the nobility, and many of the clergy and laity. Sixteen annual accounts of the collation

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of the MSS. and four of the publication, have been published, the subscription to which last year amounted to 2137l. Having brought the publication of the Pentateuch to a conclusion, he last year edited the Prophecy of Daniel, according to Theodotion and the Seventy, departing from his proposed order, as if by a presentment of his end. In 15 years, 7000l. had been expended on this great undertaking, the collations of which are deposited in the Bodleian library, to be published by the Doctor, or, in case of his death, by some other person, under the auspices of the delegates of the Clarendon Press."

Sept. 4. At Kingston, Jamaica, David Shirreffs, Esq. member of the house of assembly of Jamaica, and lieutenant-colonel of militia. This gentleman was second son of the late Convener Shirreffs, of Abbeeden.

November 23. At Exeter, in the prime of life, Richard Perriman, Esq. of Teignmouth: he was bred up to the law, but ceased to follow that profession for the last three or four years, in consequence of an acquisition of an ample fortune by the death of his uncle. He was in the strength and vigour of youth, on one day, and the following saw him a lifeless corpse.

November 25. At his seat at Sidmington, Hants, aged 74, Sir Richard Kingsmill, Baronet, admiral of the red. His original name was Brice, and was descended from an ancient and respectable family at Belfast in Ireland. He was born about 1730, and having from his earliest youth discovered a predilection for a naval life, he was indulged by his parents in that propensity, and accordingly entered at a proper age into the royal navy. In the subordinate ranks of midshipman and master's mate he constantly displayed a diligent attention to the duties of his station, as well as a care, and a conviction of the necessity of it;



and such was the promising traits of his conduct that he was deservedly appointed to the rank of lieutenant on April 29th, 1756. After remaining from the commencement of the war, till the beginning of the year 1761, without obtaining any advancement, he was at the end of the month of January sent to sea for the first time in an independent station, as acting commander of the Swallow Sloop of war. His outset in life as a naval commander was fortunately attended with one of those successes, which, though trivial in themselves, afford both hope and encouragement to the youth and spirit of an hero. Being employed in cruising off the coast of France, he fell in with and captured, almost without resistance, a privateer belonging to Bayonne, called the Sultan. Equalling, as it did in force, the vessel which Mr. Kingsmill commanded, the adroitness and ease with which he effected his conquest reflected no less honour on him than a hard fought action. He was soon after appointed to the command of the Basilisk Bomb Ketch, and ordered to the West Indies with an armament under Rear Admiral (afterwards Lord) Rodney. Having arrived at Barbadoes they were joined by a reinforcement under the orders of Commodore Barton, who had proceeded to the same rendezvous with a numerous fleet of transports, and shortly after by a body of troops under General Moukton; the whole proceeded to the attack of the Island of Martinico, which having surrendered to the British arms in February 1762, Mr. Brice was ordered back to England, and immediately on his arrival was appointed to the command of one of the yachts then equipping for the purpose of conveying from Stade Her present Majesty and suite. This honourable and complimentary command being over, the yacht was paid off, and Capt. Brice remained unemployed till the ensuing May, when being raised to the rank of post captain, he was appointed to the Crescent Frigate, and again ordered to the West Indies. The peace which took place in 1763 did not cause the return of Capt. Brice to Europe, his ship being stationed till the end of 1764

in the West Indies; but returning the spring of 1765, the Crescent was paid off and he retired from the fatigues of a laborious and uninterrupted service to the relaxation attendant on private life, and the comforts of domestic society. In 1766 he married Miss Kingsmill, a Berkshire lady of very respectable family, and in consequence of that union attained possession of a considerable landed property, and likewise received the King's permission to assume the name of Kingsmill. From this time till the year 1778, when the insidious conduct of the court of France rendered a rupture more than probable, Capt. Kingsmill quitted without regret the pleasures of retirement, and accepted the command of the Vigilant of 64 guns, then under equipment for the channel service. In this ship he was present on the 27th of July following, at the memorable engagement which took place off Ushant between the British Fleet under Admiral Keppel, and that of France under Count d'Orvilliers, and although materially engaged, yet was so fortunate as to have only two of his people killed and three wounded. The rage of party, and the known independence of Captain Kingsmill's principles, caused, it is said, the country to lose the advantage of his knowledge and abilities during the greater part of the war which had then commenced. The Vigilant being ordered at the conclusion of the year to the West Indies, Capt. Kingsmill removed from that ship, and was not appointed to any other till the year 1782, when he received the command of the Elizabeth of 74 guns, which had just then been completely repaired, and had orders to conduct a small squadron, of which the Elizabeth was one, then equipping, for the East Indies. The delays incident to the equipment of a naval force, intended for a long and active service, protracted the sailing of this squadron till the Middle of January 1783. Misfortune and adversity attended this armament from the moment of its departure; for before it cleared the Bay of Biscay, a continued tempest, not only completely dispersed the ships, but dismasted the greater part of them, and other-

wise so much injured them in their hulls and rigging, that it was with difficulty they were preserved from foundering. They all, however, effected their return in safety, and though Captain K. with the most unremitting perseverance, strove to make his passage, he was at length compelled to put back. He returned to Spithead on the 1st of February, and the preliminaries of peace between the belligerent powers having been then recently concluded, any farther naval reinforcement to the East Indies became unnecessary. The Elizabeth was, however, retained in commission, and placed as a guardship on the peace establishment, and Capt. Kingsmill continued the command of her during three years, the usual period of those appointments. Having once more returned to enjoy the comforts of a domestic life, he was again called into service in the year 1790, when it was deemed necessary to equip a large naval force, on account of the dispute with Spain relative to Nootka sound. Capt. Kingsmill was appointed to the Duke of 90 guns, but the affair being amicably compromised, all the ships equipped on this occasion were put out of commission, a circumstance which closed the services of Capt. Kingsmill in the rank he then held. England, after, a state of tranquillity of more than two years, found itself suddenly, though not unexpectedly, involved in a war with revolutionary France, and at the beginning of 1793, the ministry resolved on equipping a sufficient force to withstand those attacks with which she was threatened. A promotion of flag officers was one consequence of this resolution, and on February 1st, 1793, Captain Kingsmill was promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the White Squadron, and appointed to the command in chief on the Irish station. From the instant that hostilities commenced, the entrance of the English and Irish Channels became most grievously infested by the enemy's cruisers of all descriptions, and the mere list of vessels, many of them of considerable force, which fell into the hands of different cruisers under Admiral Kingsmill, would form of themselves a proof

sufficiently indelible of that right to public applause, which his conduct justly procured him. But these successes were trivial in comparison with that which he had the good fortune to effect in the month of June, 1796. A squadron of frigates, consisting of four sail, had been fitted out at the port of Brest for the express purpose of committing depredations against the British trade in that particular quarter. The whole of this squadron, through the active exertions of the officers employed under the orders of Admiral Kingsmill, was captured, and the ships brought into port. The conclusion of the year was productive of an event, and plan of operations set on foot by the enemy, for the reduction of Ireland. A formidable armament, consisting of seventeen sail of the line, and twenty-seven frigates and smaller vessels, sailed from Brest, with a considerable body of troops on board, in the hope of effecting a descent on that island. But our limits will not permit to give a detail of the disasters this ill-fated armament experienced. The moment was critical, and though succoured by Providence, as the British arms appeared to be, it certainly required a great share of ability to enable a commander at the head of a small force, as that was which was under Admiral Kingsmill, to stem the enemy's fleet, which still threatened him with attack. The discomfiture of this expedition naturally procured a cessation for some time from any similar attempt. However, sixteen months afterwards, France resumed the project, and exposed herself again to the gallantry of the British navy. The Hoche, a ship of the line, 8 frigates, and a small vessels found an opportunity of clearing Brest harbour. They had on board about 5000 troops, with arms and stores of all kind in great plenty. On their appearance off the coast of Ireland, Admiral Kingsmill's cruisers displayed the utmost activity in intercepting such of the French ships as had escaped from the general action, the glory of which fell to the share of that gallant officer Sir John Borlase Warren. The greater part of the French squadron being captured

nothing more of this kind of warfare ensued on the Irish station. Admiral Kingsmill, however, remained on it till the end of the year 1800, when he resigned his command to Sir Alan now Lord Gardner, and did not afterwards accept any naval employment. A recapitulation of the honours and compliments repeatedly paid to this gentleman by the most respectable corporate bodies and the noblest individuals, would far exceed our limits. Suffice it to say, the frequent repetition of them, and the warmth exultingly displayed by the parties on paying what was considered a bare tribute of justice to the worth of their protector, were sufficient to prove that few men could have been fortunate enough to equal him in their esteem, and none to exceed him. Just at the time he quitted the command of the Irish station, Admiral Kingsmill was raised to the degree of a Baronet of Great Britain, an honour that no man ever more justly or honourably earned.

25. In Pall Mall, the Rev. Dr. Whitmore, late Fellow of St. John's college, Cambridge, and rector of Lawford, in Essex.

At Bath, aged 64, Henry Archbould, Esq. late of Jamaica, the last male descendant of Col. Archbould, who distinguished himself at the conquest of that island, where he afterwards resided, and became a considerable proprietor.

25. At her house in Manchester-street, Manchester-square, the Rt. Hon. Lady Charlotte Hornby, only daughter of the Earl of Derby, by Lady Elizabeth Hamilton, only daughter of James, the sixth Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, and wife of Edmund Hornby, Esq. whose sister is married to Lord Stanley. Her Ladyship had been ill for some weeks.

26. At Bath, aged 82, the Right Hon. Sir John Skynner, Knt. one of his Majesty's most honourable privy council.

27. At Swanmore House, near Salisbury, aged 70, W. Augustus Bettesworth, Esq. formerly judge advocate of his Majesty's fleet, and many years an eminent and respectable attorney at Portsea,

December 9. After a short illness,

at his house in Upper Homerton, aged 52, Paul Le Mesurier, Esq. alderman of the city of London, representative in two parliaments for the borough of Southwark, a director of the East India company, colonel of the hon. artillery company, and invested with other public situations. He was the second surviving son of John Le Mesurier, Esq. hereditary governor of the island of Alderney; and as a magistrate, legislator, commander of the first volunteer corps in the kingdom, or in whatever other capacity he has been called upon to act through the course of a very public life, he proved himself ever loyal, dignified, and firm; disinterested, friendly, and obliging; a kind husband, an affectionate father, and a sincere christian.

17. Suddenly, at Bath, aged 80, the Right Hon. Susannah Louisa, Dowager Lady St. John, of Bletso. Her Ladyship's surviving issue are the Lord St. John (who died on the following day) Hon. St. A. St. John, late M. P. for Bedfordshire, and now Lord St. John of Bletso; Hon. Mrs. Villers, and Hon. Mrs. Vaughan. To her respected memory, we offer the just tribute of a well-spent life. Her exemplary devotion, her principles of moral rectitude and charity, her pious resignation under domestic afflictions; particularly the late loss of her youngest son, the Hon. Colonel George St. John, together with his wife and four children, on his return from India in the Prince of Wales.

25. Aged 78 Lewis Gwynne, Esq. of Monachty, in the county of Cardigan. He lived very private, though possessed of an extensive estate, and accumulated an immense fortune, the bulk of which he has left to the Rev. Alban Thomas Jones, of Tuglyn, together with his real estate, except a small part, which he bequeathed to Mr. Edwards, youngest son of D. J. Edwards, Esq. of Job's Well, near Carmarthen. He had in his house, when he died, such a quantity of gold, that a horse could not carry the weight, to convey it to Tuglyn, about a mile off, and, when put on a sledge, it was with difficulty he could draw it there. The amount in gold is one hundred

thousand pounds, besides fifty thousand pounds in the stocks. His other legacies are but few, and of no great amount. He was generous to the poor, always a friend to the necessitous, and an upright gentleman.

**A.** Twickenham, in an advanced age, Thomas Winsloe, Esq. formerly of Collipriest he was sheriff of Devon in 1780.

**December 1.** At Tor Abbey, aged 74, Geo. Carey, Esq. He was of a truly hospitable and generous heart, and his loss will be severely felt by the poor of his neighbourhood, to whom he was a humane and liberal benefactor.

**7.** At Gateacre, aged 38, after a short indisposition, the Rev. Robert Parke, fellow of Pembroke college, Cambridge, and minister of the gospel at the church of Wavertree near Leperpool.

**12.** At Chelsea, aged 67, Henry Sampson Woodfall, Esq. formerly an eminent painter.

At Bath, the Rev. Geo. Cotton, LL.D. dean of Chester, and brother of Sir Robert Cotton, Bart.

At Bath, Richard Daniell, Esq. surgeon to the Armagh county hospital, in Ireland.

At Knightsbridge, the Rev. John Griffith, rector of Landawke and Pendine in the county of Carmarthen.

**18.** After a long illness, the Right Hon. Henry Beauchamp St. John, Lord St. John of Bletso, F. L. S. His lordship dying without male issue, having left four daughters only, is succeeded in his title and estates, by the Hon. Andrew St. John, member in the last five successive parliaments for the county of Bedford.

At Selby, aged 33, whilst on professional business, Mark Ord, of York, Esq. barrister at law.

At his house in Store-street, Bedford-square. Thomas King, of Drury-lane Theatre, Esq. He was born in the year 1730, and died in the 75th year of his age. He first appeared at Drury-lane Theatre in 1743, having exchanged the attorney's quill for the tragic truncheon. His first essays being passed over without notice, and the characters in his view being preoccupied by veteran performers he repaired to Bath, and afterwards to Ireland, where he ra-

pidly accomplished himself in his profession. He was recalled to Drury-lane stage in the year 1759, when he was received as one of the first comic performers of the day. For forty years he was constantly before the public, and ever continued to meet with high and deserved approbation. Those who recollect his *Lord Ogleby*, *Sir Peter Teazle*, *Tom, Brass*, and *Lissardo*, must be rather fastidious in their approval of any successor in those parts. He was a proprietor of the Bristol Theatre, and of Sadler's Wells, both gaining concerns; but, unfortunately, his daily industry experienced sad defalcations from his nightly *hazard*! He was manager of Drury-lane Theatre for six years, during which, he acquitted himself with great credit; but on some difference between him and the proprietors in 1788, he relinquished that situation, and finally quitted the stage in 1801. In private life he was full of whim, anecdote, and pleasantry; and his general conduct bore, even on the most trying occasions, the stamp of the strictest integrity.

#### MILITARY AND NAVAL OFFICERS DECEASED.

On board the *Revenge* of 74 guns, in the late gallant action under **LORD NELSON**, Edward Brook, midshipman, a fine youth, aged 12 years, son of Mr. Brook of Wakefield, Coroner.

On board the *Victory*, on the same glorious day, Mr. Alex. Palmer, midshipman, son of Mr. Palmer, late of St. James's street. Also Lieut. William Ram, son of Col. Ram, M. P. for the county of Wexford in Ireland.

Drowned in one of the French prizes lost off Cadiz, lieut. Fernyhaugh, of his Majesty's ship *Donnegal*.

**November 28.** At Weymouth, after a few days illness, aged 17, the Hon. W. Poulett, cornet in the 13th light dragoons, third son of Earl Poulett.

**December 2.** At St. Leonard, aged 30, Mr David Johnstone, lieutenant in the royal navy, son of the late Mr. Rob. Johnstone of Edinburgh. He was wounded last war in the West Indies, and again off Cam-

perdown under Lord Duncan. He fought afterwards under Lord Nelson at Copenhagen, but never recovered from the fatigue of that memorable engagement.

At Salisbury, Hillyear Windham, Esq. lieutenant of the 1st dragoon guards, youngest son of H. P. Windham, Esq. M. P. for Wiltshire.

At Castle Iyer, King's county, Ireland, after a long and painful illness, James Ferrier, Esq. lieutenant-general of his Majesty's forces, and late of the engineers on the Irish establishment.

At Doncaster, lieut. Rutter of the 3d or Queen's regiment of foot, and only son of Lowther Rutter, Esq.

At Ballinasloe, Ireland, Stair Park Dalrymple, Esq. major-general of his Majesty's forces, and lieut.-colonel of the 71st, foot. He had reviewed the 42d regiment in the forenoon, and on the way to dine with the officers, dropped down in a fit of apoplexy, and instantly expired.

#### IRELAND.

November 14. At Dublin, of an inflammation of the lungs, Waller Sweetman, an eminent agent.

December 3. At Dublin, the Right Hon. Rose, Baroness French of Castle French. The title descends to the eldest son Sir Thomas, now Lord French.

#### DEATHS ABROAD.

At Aschaffenburg, aged 89, the Baron Von Esthal, governor of the principality of Aschaffenburg. He was brother of the late elector of Mentz.

At Planchette near Paris, aged 70, General Ferrand, ex-prefect of the department of the Meuse, and a member of the legion of honour. He was the governor of Valenciennes during the siege of that fortress by the army under the command of the Duke of York.

Lately, M. l'Abbe Garnier, member of the class of ancient literature: the following short memoir of this savan has been given by DELALANDE.

'I was one of his earliest friends, and the melancholy satisfaction of sprinkling the first flowers on his tomb has devolved on me. He was born at Goron on the Maine, on the

18th of March 1729, from whence, after having completed his studies he came to Paris without money, and was in the first instance employed by the college of Harcourt. In 1760 he was admitted into the college of France as a coadjutor of the Abbe Sallier who soon became well acquainted with his merit. In 1768 he was named its inspector general, in case of his surviving M. Vetry, who was already become infirm.

'In 1770 he produced the ninth volume, in quarto, of the History of France, of Velly, and Villaret, which commenced with the year 1469. In 1786 he gave the fifteenth, which concluded with the year 1563; and in both there is a display of erudition unequalled by that of his predecessors. He had completed the succeeding volume; but at a time when every one was declaiming against Kings, he was unwilling to publish facts contrary to royalty.

'The college of France was under great obligation to his industry, as it owes to him the regeneration, the perfection, and the construction of its school. In 1793 he was obliged to quit it, in consequence of the oath necessary to be taken. He was nearly penniless, but he was kindly received by M. and Mad. de Mesme, at Bougival, where he remained till his death.

'As he had a great number of books, he was inclined to deposit them with me, on condition that I allowed him an annuity. I represented his case with warmth to the minister of the interior, and urged that it would be a shame to permit a man of his merit to remain without resource. He was immediately nominated to the institute along with the former members of the academy of inscriptions, the memoirs of which are a sufficient attestation of his merit. He told me at that time that he was in possession of many pieces, and I hope they are not destroyed.

'The eulogium of him, to be delivered by the secretary, will cause him to be better known, and I shall conclude with bearing testimony to his obliging character, his generosity, his disinterestedness, and his kindness: he was beloved by his domestics, and respected by all who had the honor of his acquaintance,



## AGRICULTURAL REPORT,

*For a fertile District in the East Riding of the County of York [Dec. 23.]*

*The information contained in this article may be depended on as the result of the observations of a practical and intelligent farmer resident in the district. We therefore solicit the attention of our readers to it, more particularly as we apprehend that the remarks contained therein will, generally speaking, apply to most other flat, clayey, and fertile soils, not bordering too near on the sea.*

**T**HE early sown wheats have come up as usual, quickly, and in abundance; but I have watched the later ones with some attention, and could discover few of them to have sent blades above the surface, till just now, when the disappearance of some snow, which had covered the ground during a week preceding, enabled me to discover a few; but they were small in number, and much too thin. However, on a more minute examination, I find the deeper buried grains not to have germinated, but they are in such a state, that I doubt not but a few genial days will send them forth: so that there is little or nothing to apprehend on that account. The earliest sown crops have been long above ground, and the plants are sufficiently numerous, as is commonly the case, where the land is not too dry; but the former circumstance does not take place in the later ones, the land being naturally so wet, as often to cause a great portion of the seed to perish. This would seem to be an argument decidedly in favour of early sowing,\* which would certainly be, generally speaking, beneficial to the farmer: did not the greater part of the arable land in this district come under the denomination *old going*, the which when sown early, commonly sends up such a host of weeds, as to prove a material injury to the crop, and in some instances even to threaten it with utter destruction. The evil, however, will by and by, become much less important, the practice of alternating pasture with tillage, and sowing earlier, gaining ground rapidly.†

WHEAT does not yield under the flail so plentifully as was expected, except such as was grown on sound bodied clay or warp lands.

OATS yields something more abundantly than they were expected.‡

BEANS, except an occasional stack remaining since last year, have not yet been thrashed out, so as to enable me to form an estimate of their pro-

\* The farmers in this district have seldom, unless the season prove remarkably fine, finished sowing their wheat till the beginning of November, and in some instances till beyond the middle of that month; whereas in the more southern counties, even in Nottinghamshire, wheat is often strong in blade in the beginning of October. The reasons of this late sowing are given above. E.

† The practice alluded to is the following: the land is sown with the artificial grasses, such as ray-grass, clover, &c. which are suffered to remain till the clover is run out, and the ground covered with a slight turf, a process generally completed in three, four, five, or more years according to circumstances. After being thus rested it is ploughed out, and subjected to the operations of tillage for a few years, when the former practice is again resorted to: so that the land is alternately rested and employed as it were, and the increasing prevalence of the practice is a tolerably sure proof of its utility, it being quite at variance with former usages and customs, as is sufficiently obvious, by the landlords in this district when granting leases, foolishly binding their tenants, to keep certain fields, holding no other rule but caprice, laid down in grass. S.

‡ When a farmer has had his barn filled and thrashed out twice or thrice, he can often say, to a few quarters under or over, how much corn a given quantity of straw will yield; unless it prove a greater or a more deficient crop than usual: I have frequently known the produce of large stacks to be guessed within two or three quarters by practical men. S.

duce: the few which have hitherto been thrashed, were, as might be expected, soft, and according to custom, were applied for the purpose of feeding hogs, the only one for which they are adapted till they have hardened in the stack.

**BARLEY** is so little sown in this district, that I am unable to offer any thing respecting it, worthy of notice: it is not so good in quality as in some other years.

**POTATOES** have not been much shipped as yet to the London market, so that I can say little respecting them.

**RAPE** looks promising, but no great quantity of ground is sown with it, the present season in this district.

**TURNIPS** are complained of, as having decayed at the root in some fields, but this circumstance may be owing to certain localities: they are not, hitherto, much injured by the weather.

**FLAX** (*white* in contradistinction to *seed flax*), corroborates, in the working, the remark made in my REPORT for August; it being generally said to be tender, and to yield indifferently. The last fair at Selby,\* was brisk, and though there was supposed to be a full quantity offered for sale, it obtained from eleven to fifteen shillings per stone of fourteen pounds. These prices, which are rather greater than ordinary, prove that the demand is increasing, or that the general produce is somewhat deficient, particularly when it is recollected that the quality, generally speaking, is inferior: perhaps, both conjectures may be true.

**PIGS** for the straw yard are selling at good prices.

**BEEF** on the stall fetches six shillings per stone (of fourteen pounds).

**MUTTON** sixpence per pound. S.

§ The Flax which is pulled and prepared for swingling, previous to the ripening of the seed, is called *white line* from the greater whiteness of its produce; whereas, when it is suffered to perfect its seeds, and is afterwards subjected to the process for white lime it is much darker in colour, and is commonly called *seed line*: it usually fetches about a fifth or a sixth less price than the other, in the market. S.

• Selby is a market town on the river Ouse, about fourteen miles from York towards the Humber, its being thus situated, and at the head of a canal communicating with the river Aire, which last, runs into the heart of the West Riding of Yorkshire, gives it the preeminence as a market for vending this article, it having so much at hand, the means of forwarding it to its future destination. The increasing demand for flax, in this district, would seem to augur favorably for our home-made linen manufactures. E.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—In consequence of the Success and Encouragement, experienced by the present Proprietors of this Publication, and the increase of Correspondence and literary Intelligence, they beg leave to inform the reader of the MONTHLY EPITOME, that it is their intention to enlarge it at the Commencement of the ensuing year—they also propose to ornament it with a series of engravings, which will increase its value, and will, they hope, meet with the approbation of the Public.

Communications are received from RS. WE. S. QZ. AQ. DEMONSTRATION. M. D. W. S. and others of our literary Friends. Communications for this Work are requested to be addressed to the "Editor of the MONTHLY EPITOME and LITERARY MAGAZINE," at Mr. Walker's, No. 44, Paternoster-row, to Mr. Clarke, 38, New Bond-street, or to 56, St. Paul's Church-yard, before the 16th of each Month, if intended for Insertion in the succeeding Numbers. Literary Notices, Lists of Books, Importations, Music, Prints, Maps and Charts, Notices of Deaths, Biographical Memoirs, &c. cannot be inserted in the ensuing Number, unless they come to hand, previously to the 21st of each Month.—Papers on Literary, or Scientific Subjects, or on those connected with improving the comforts or conveniences of Mankind, will be preferred to others of a more general Nature.

\*• The list of Books, &c. omitted this month, on account of some unforeseen circumstances, will be given in our next, as will also the Index, Title, &c. &c.

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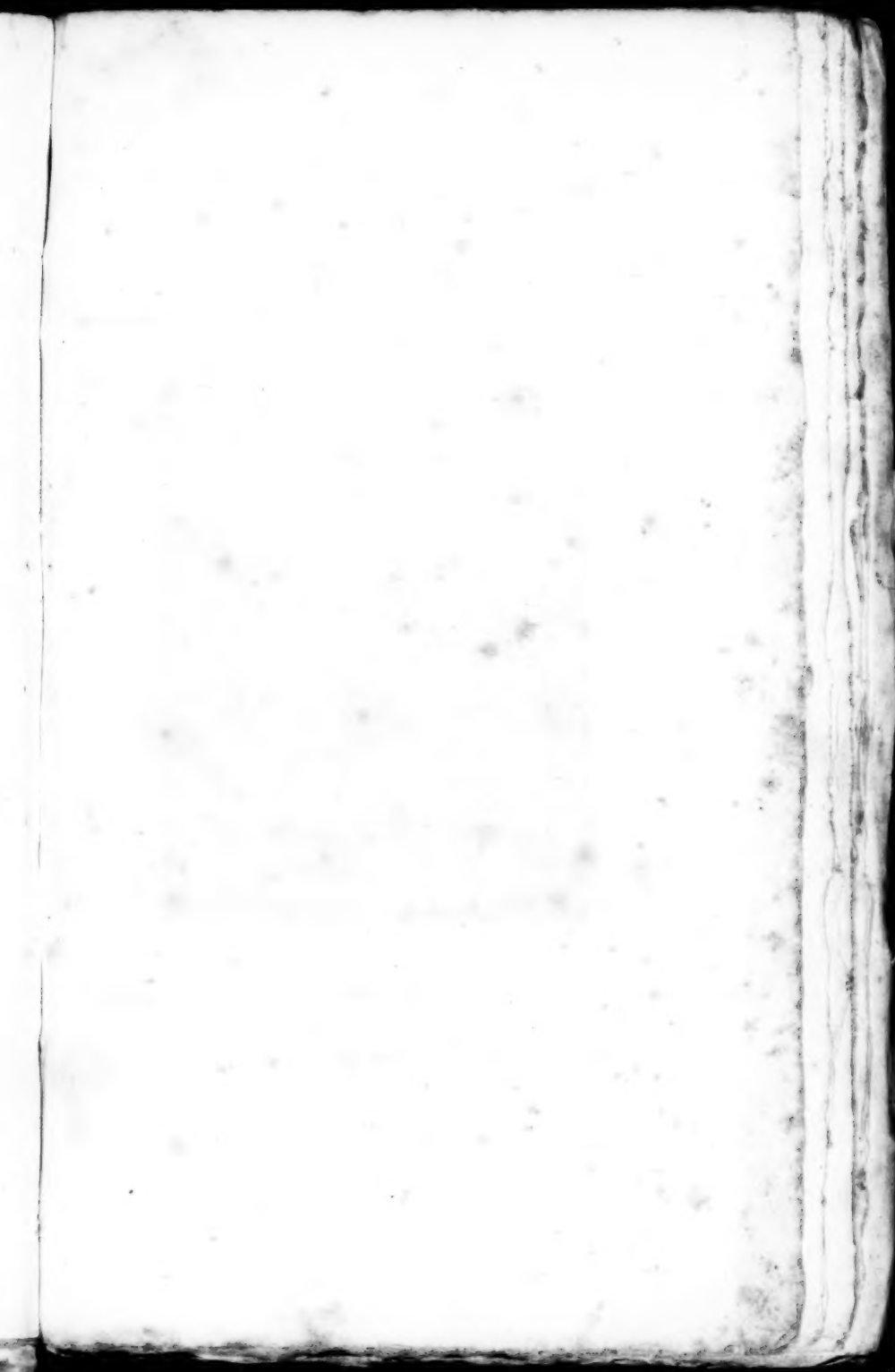
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